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ON HER WAY TO THE WELL!

—*N. G. Limaye.*

WOMEN WARRIORS OF RUSSIA

—*See Page 3*

ARCHITECTS OF RUSSIAN VICTORY

Koniev And Rotmistrov

Of the two marshals leading the Russian Ukrainian front, Marshal of the Soviet Union, Ivan Stepanovitch Koniev, is the senior.

When he commanded the Kalinin front in the battle for Moscow, Pavel Alexeyevitch Rotmistrov was a colonel leading the Third Guards' Tank Brigade on that front. The two met there and to-day Rotmistrov, as marshal of the armoured forces, has under his command what is probably the largest tank group on the Eastern Front.

Over his uniform Marshal Koniev wears a plain greatcoat without epaulettes; his tank helmet is pulled low over his heavy brows. His face is drawn and deeply lined, for Koniev does not spare himself, and 30 months of campaigning have taxed his health. But the clear blue eyes reveal an alertness of mind.

Passion For Accuracy

Marshal Koniev is a man of somewhat morose temperament and few words. Often when handed the draft of an order of the day he will complain that it misses the main point, draw his pen firmly through it, and with a bold hand rewrite it in brief, laconic form. His demands on comfort are modest; a simple Ukrainian cottage, whence most of the ornaments and superfluous furniture have been removed, has often served him as a headquarters. He has a passion for accuracy. In his own work he calculates long, smoking hard as he paces the room with his hands behind his back. He cultivates relations with his men, whom he addresses as "brothers."

Marshal Koniev's knowledge of military history and science is profound, and his library on the subject is renowned. He reads German and English, and since the time when he served in the ranks of the Tsar's armies in the Second Heavy Artillery Brigade 28 years ago, he has spent considerable time in a study of military theory in the Red Army's academies. During the civil war he commanded an armoured train in the Far East, where he returned in the thirties to lead the Second Red Banner Army. Now in his 48th year, he has a son who is a fighter pilot and a daughter at an Air Force academy. He is a keen huntsman.

Stalin's Strategy Of Manoeuvre

Military critics in Moscow consider that Koniev had established his own personal style in handling his forces as early as the Moscow battles, and that this is characterised by deep understanding of what is known in the Red Army as Stalin's strategy of manoeuvre—in other words, boldness in flank attack and indirect approach to an objective. There is no doubt that in the capture of Klin and Kalinin, and in his later drive to Rznev and Toropets, Komev showed outstanding skill in his rapid, unexpected, and often quite unconventional movement of troops.

But Koniev's real genius was revealed only when, after a spell in command of the Western Front, he was given a new group of armies on what was then known as the Steppe Front. The terrain lying before him was as different as could be imagined from that of Kalinin province. Instead of forest, marsh, or sandy heath, there was the bare rolling steppe of the Central Ukraine; instead of compact villages and infrequent roads, the sprawling settlements of the sound lining a network of roads. There were the short winter and long spells of fickle weather between the main seasons. But especially there were the rivers, broad and winding and with steep western banks—the Donets, the Vorskla, the Psiol, the Dnieper, and the Bug.

Saved From Demolition

Perhaps the most striking tribute to Marshal Koniev's generalship is the fact that the amount of damage the retreating enemy has been able to inflict on Ukrainian towns and villages is less on the line of his advance than anywhere else in the south. His share in the operations leading to the liberation of Kharkov consisted in a by-passing movement which proved a decisive factor, forcing the enemy to leave the city, and though German torch squads and mine-layers had done their work in Kharkov itself, Marshal Koniev's thrust saved Merefa and other adjacent towns from demolition.

The same audacity which he had shown in selecting the Liubotin Marshes as the point for the crossing of the Donetz brought his troops over the Vorskla to defeat the Germans on the same battlefield near Poltava where Peter the Great defeated Charles XIII. The offensive was continued on a broad front, sweeping up Krasnograd and Kremenchug, which the Germans had hoped to hold as a bridgehead.

On reaching the Dnieper, Koniev ordered the immediate establishment of 18 separate bridgeheads on a front of over 60 miles. The enemy had expected just the opposite—a concentration of Russian forces in an attempt to force a powerful breakthrough.

A Specialist In Tanks

Marshal Rotmistrov, like Marshal Koniev, has served in the Red Army in all ranks from the lowest to the highest. He was first in action against Koltchak. Later he graduated from the Frunze Academy with the highest marks of his year. It was there that he first became interested in tanks. He began to specialise in tanks, learning to handle them and studying all foreign literature on the subject, including Fuller, de Gaulle and Guderian. He is the author of several theoretical works on tank warfare, and his work "The Use of Tanks in Mountain Warfare" is a classic in its field.

Rotmistrov first gained distinction in this war as a colonel on the Kalinin front. Later, near Yelets, his forces routed three German divisions. At Stalingrad he participated in the defensive fighting, and his Third Guard Tank Corps received the little of "Manich" for its famous two-day raid to the south-west of Kotelnikovo.

Greatest Armada

In July, 1943, he led the greatest armada of Russian tanks that had then been assembled on a front against an equal German force near Prokhorovka, a place of symbolic importance because it was the easternmost point reached by the Germans in this part of the Ukraine in 1918.

Marshal Koniev

Unlik Koniev, Rotmistrov is seen on the battlefield wearing full general's uniform, with tall lampskin hat. Rotund and spectacled, he is probably the most fastidious-looking of the Red Army's leading commanders. He has a deep fund of warm feeling towards his men, which is shown in many ways but perhaps nowhere as much as in the interest he takes in the families of those who have fallen in his service. His intellectual interests are wide, and extend beyond the frontiers of his own land. A correspondent who visited him during the Korsun encirclement operation found Rotmistrov prepared to discuss recent developments in English literature.

(—"The Manchester Guardian")

Berlin Flouts Vichy

How Hitler Banned Petain's Broadcast

LONDON, By Cable.—The text has just been published of an extraordinary letter which Von Ribbentrop, on Hitler's instructions, wrote to Marshal Petain at the end of last year, says a correspondent in "The Times."

The correspondent adds: "It discloses the reasons why the broadcast which Petain had arranged to make foreshadowing important constitutional changes was cancelled. It also describes how Berlin gives Vichy its orders and expects them to be obeyed. The letter—which was published in full in the "Journal de Geneve" recently—makes it clear that Petain intended to revive the National Assembly with a view to changing the present provisions for succession to Chief of State. The text of the proposed broadcast reached the Germans only a short time before it was to have been delivered, and Ribbentrop promptly banned it.

THE LETTER

After discussion with Hitler, Ribbentrop wrote to Petain rejecting "with indignation" the proposal to restore the National Assembly which he described as "no longer in any way the legal representative of the will of the French people." He went on to say that "there exists no legal body capable of exercising the functions" and indicted the proposed broadcast and upbraided the Marshal for his disloyalty to the policy of collaboration with Germany. He accused him of bringing the National Assembly into being again and of attempting to "provide for the future by getting in touch with the Algiers Committee and through it with the British and Americans."

The letter continued: "The constant obstacles placed in the way of application of the policy of true collaboration, which, as it appears from the information I have received, have during recent months continually caused fresh domestic crises, show clearly the attitude, motives and aims which no longer leave one in any doubt. This evolution in France in any case proves one thing namely, that the policy of the supreme Head of State in Vichy follows a line which the Government of the Reich cannot approve and which moreover it is not disposed to accept in future as it is an occupying Power and has the responsibility of maintaing public order and calm in France."

The position, Ribbentrop said, had become "intolerable." The Government of the Reich, therefore, demanded of Petain that "in future any projected modifications of the law should be submitted in due time for the approval of the Reich Government and further that Laval should have the task of reshuffling the French Cabinet without delay in such a way as shall be acceptable to the German Government while guaranteeing collaboration."

Ribbentrop wrote of the "hard fight" in which Germany was engaged against Bolshevism and other anti-European Powers; he called on the Marshal not to forget that "today the only guarantee for the maintenance of calm and public order inside France and thereby the security of French people and its regime against Bolshevist revolution and chaos is the German Wehrmacht..... In any case I would ask you to remember that Germany will know how to safeguard her interests in all circumstances by one means or another."

Marshal Petain was told "in the name of the Fuehrer" to do as Germany demanded or to resign.

It is to be noted that since the letter was written Vichy's subservience to the Reich has been confirmed by a ruthless war on Patriots undertaken by Joseph Darnand and by the appointment of the pro-German Marcel Deat as Minister of State for Labour and National Solidarity.

He: "It was a play any fool could have understood, my dear".
She: "How you must have enjoyed it, darling".

Future Of Sino-American Relations

Richard J. Walsh, publisher of the Asia magazine and husband of Pearl Buck, in a nation wide broadcast on April 20 said: "The victory over Japan is certain even if it is not yet in sight. It may be two, three or many years away. But it is enough that many Americans and many Chinese are thinking hard about what our relations will be after the war as victorious Allies.

"I could not count the number of Americans who have told me that they plan to travel to China at the first possible moment. A Chinese who has just come to New York said to me the other day: 'It seems to be the ambition of every young man and woman in China to visit the United States.'

"Plans are being made for great numbers of Chinese students to come to our colleges and technical schools. Equally great numbers of our young people with technical training are counting on going to China to share in the tremendous tasks of reconstruction and building new industries that China must and will have.

"Many other Americans want to go to China for what they can learn there—students of art and archaeology, of philosophy and literature, and of all those aspects of the ancient and rich culture of which the Chinese have so much to teach us.

"There will, I believe, be a growing exchange of professors and lecturers between their universities and ours and visits back and forth between congenial groups of all sorts—writers, labour, artists, agriculturists, garden lovers, women's organizations and theatrical companies. And of course our business men and bankers and their Chinese counterparts are planning to do an enormous amount of business together for decades to come.

"What Europe has meant to us for the past hundred years with its culture, traditions, beauty and opportunities, Asia, and especially China, will mean to us for the next century—that and much more. We Americans have ahead of us the most exciting and rewarding adventure in human relationship that any generation of us has ever had—the adventure of getting to know the Chinese people and sharing an enlarged life with them.

"With wisdom born of this war, we have given up these special privileges in China known as extra territorial rights and we have repealed the Chinese Exclusion Laws and made the Chinese eligible for citizenship. We have, in short, found that there is between us no question of superiority. From now on, it is a plain matter of good will and common sense. The real typical Chinese and the real typical Americans can get together to offset all fears and follies, they can rule out the stupid, the selfish and the wilful men of both nations and they can live and work together, to learn from one another and to trade together as equals in mutual respect and with mutual profit and enjoyment."—Central News.

"When Schumann composed that piece he was thinking of his fiancee."
"Then why play it as if he had been thinking of his mother-in law"?

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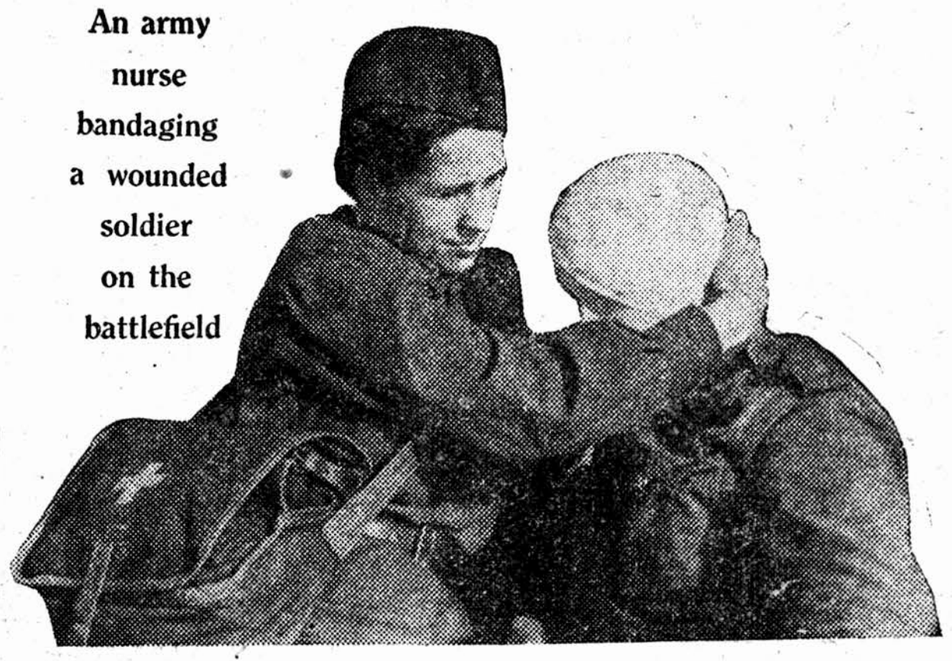
Soviet Women At War

By CHATWOOD HALL
(Special to "The Bombay Chronicle Weekly")



An army nurse bandaging a wounded soldier on the battlefield

MOSCOW, (By Air Mail.)

Time was when war passed women by. War was man's business pure simple. He intrigued and organized wars and he fought, bled and died in them. Women—mothers, wives, sweethearts—remained in the rear awaiting the outcome of the struggle, wringing their hands over the unknown fate of loved ones at the front, or shrouded in mourning over husbands, sons and brothers already fallen in battle.

But present-day, totalitarian, all-out warfare is not like that. Contemporary war demands the gearing up of the entire nation without distincion of sex. There is a place, or one is found, not only for every father and son, but for every mother and daughter in the wars of to-day. Both manpower and womanpower are joint and complementary factors in to-day's warfare. Millions of women in Britain and America, India and Australia, Canada and South Africa are at war to-day no less than their menfolk. Russia, which has borne the main burden of World War Two for over two years, not only is no exception, but most likely occupies first place in this respect.

6,000,000 In Industry

However, in the matter of drawing women into the business of war, Russia had a big preparatory advantage, a jump, as it were, over her Allies: Millions of Soviet women were already engaged in industry and other branches of the country's economy long before the war began. As far back as 1931, "Izvestia" (March 8, 1932) reported over 6,000,000 women engaged in Soviet industry alone, or a number approximating the total population of Australia at that time. By 1937 A. S. Lozovsky could report to visiting foreign trade union delegations that "Women constitute over one-third of the total number of people employed in industry. . . ." (In 1936 the total number of persons engaged in Soviet industry was 35,755,000).

I mention these informative sidelights for the benefit of Indian readers who may not be adequately informed of the big role played by women in Soviet Russian industrial economy alone in peace time, and as witnessing to the country's appreciable lead over her anti-Hitler Allies when the war began. Just how many additional millions of Soviet women have been drawn into Soviet industry during the course of the Soviet-German war may not be known until after the peace conference.

Let me be specific about the present by mentioning my latest surprise: while waiting for dispatch of my train from Kuibyshev on a recent trip to Moscow, I decided to stroll up ahead along the platform and look over the locomotive which was to pull this heavy, 60-car train out of Kuibyshev. And, lo! sitting in the engine-driver's cab was a woman whose hands, instead of rocking the cradle, were to grip the throttle of this giant "steel horse"! (The fireman, I found, was a woman also!). This aroused my curiosity; so upon arriving in Moscow I turned to official sources to look further into this matter. Here are some of my findings: at the turn of the year (1943) 40 per cent of Soviet railroaders were women (on the eve of the war they comprised 22 per cent.) During the war 190,000 women have been trained to become railroaders in one capacity or another on passenger and goods trains and even on military trains moving right up to the front. It is estimated that there are at the present time 500,000 women railroaders in Russia, or a number equal to the entire population of New Delhi.

Bricklayer's Record

Now, what could be more masculine than turning a shift before a boiling steel furnace or at a roaring blast furnace such as those you may see at the Tata Iron and Steel Company's works? True, men are in the overwhelming majority here, but Soviet women are proving that men hold no monopoly in this work. Take, for example, the giant Magnitogorsk Metallurgical Works in the Urals. Thirty-eight per cent. of its workers are women. Throughout the vast Soviet war arsenal in the Urals and western Siberia women may be found working before the scorching foundry furnace doors, as rolling press operators, at drilling machines, etc.

The record for electric welding at the Urals Machinery Plant is held by the crew of the woman foreman, Pavlova. Here is how Alexandra Podberezina, herself a "Stakhanovite" woman worker at the above-named plant, summed up the all-out work of women in Soviet war industry: "We women of the Urals are striking at Hitler and his pack of wolves by our steady stream of white-hot Urals steel for tanks, aeroplanes and trench mortars. The armaments manufactured at the Urals plants deal death to the Nazi villains". And I heard this ditty from the lips of many Urals women workers:

"Women workers strain their wits
To dig the graves of Heinie and Fritz".

There are hundreds of women coalminers, oilfield workers, stevedores and building workers to be found in those industries. As in India, Lancashire and elsewhere, the textile industry "belongs" to women. A woman bricklayer in Stalingrad, helping to rebuild that heroic city, has just established a woman's record by laying 6,200 bricks for one shift, and a crew of women stevedores recently unloaded a big Volga ship six hours ahead of the fixed time.

This is no "man's war." A man, Hitler, started it; but Soviet women, like the women of the other of the United Nations, are certainly heroically plodding away all-out to bring World War Two to a quick and victorious close.

Participation in active battle operations is, as a rule, a man's job. But even here there are many exceptions to this rule in Russia, where Amazons are fairly numerous. Many are the German fascist soldiers who have been pumped full of lead by women's hands on the long Soviet-German front.

Score To Settle

Aside from what they call their "patriotic duty', Russian women have their own special score to settle with the German invaders. In occupied Soviet territory women and their children have suffered terribly from fascist barbarism and sadism. They have been shot and hanged, buried alive and raped, driven into houses of prostitution and herded into slavery in Germany by the hundreds of thousands. When I was in Kiev recently, I noticed the scarcity of young, able-bodied women. Upon asking the reason for this, I was told that the Gestapo had rounded up most of the young, women and shipped them into Germany.

As far as I have been able to ascertain, Russian Amazon No. 1 is a stocky, firm-faced, cropped-haired woman by the name of Ludmilla Pavlichenko. (She visited England and America last year as a member of a Soviet youth delegation.) She is an ace sniper who has drawn a bead on and sent 309 Germans to their Hun Valhalla (by the time you read this she may have added several more notches to her trusty rifle). Nina Onilovna, who took part in the battle of Sevastopol, has exterminated more Germans than sniper Pavlichenko, it is true, but Amazon Onilovna, was using a machine-gun.

As nurses, factory-workers, bricklayers, engine-drivers, even aeroplane pilots, the women of Soviet Union are working hard to win the patriotic war.

Air Amazons

While I was visiting a military aerodrome in Belo-Russia last month, a twin-motored light bomber coasted to a stop on the runway. Out of the cockpit climbed two heavily-padded flyers. When they snatched off their helmets I saw that they were women—air Amazons, as it were. Senior Air Lieutenant Marie Laupnova and Air Lieutenant Nadyezda Vassileva had just returned from their 30th bombing raid over the German lines. The former, upon pulling the zipper of her outer jacket, exposed the "Order of the Red Star" on her breast; the latter wore the same order and the medal, 'For the Defence of Stalingrad."

When the Red Army captured the town of Yelets last year, a Soviet armoured train was first to break into the place. The assistant engine-driver was a woman—Marie Kozmenka. During the very first day of the battle for Leningrad the Red Army soldier Zhuravlyev was called to the trenches. His wife went along with him. Zhuravlyev was seriously wounded, and his wife dashed over the top and into the trench from whence came the fire, killed one of the two Germans there, and captured the other and delivered him to headquarters.

Any attempt to estimate the number of women fighting with Soviet guerilla detachments in the German rear would be futile. But their number must be very large, for under the prevailing conditions of partisan warfare, the struggle becomes both a family and a community affair. I have before me, as a typical example, a photograph of the Cossack partisan, Gordei Zubinko. His fellow partisans are his wife and two daughters. Usually women partisans do auxiliary task around partisan camps, such as cooking, nursing the sick and wounded, scouting, acting as lookouts, etc. But they often engage in open combat with Germans when their camps are attacked. Thus, one evening Antonina Pelvova was preparing dinner for her guerilla detachment when suddenly a German punitive expedition surrounded the camp. She grabbed a revolver,

(Continued On Page 11)

Five women in a group of seven Leningradites decorated with the "For Defence of Leningrad" medal.

Does "Mission To Moscow" Falsify History?

Critics Answered By Howard Kosch Who Adapted Ambassador Davies' Diary For The Screen

In India, as earlier in America, "Mission To Moscow" has been attacked by a certain section of the press as a prejudiced view of history.

In the following article reproduced from the "New York Times", Howard Kosch who adapted the book for the screen answers the critics. "Their quarrel", he says, "is not with us or the picture or Mr. Davies but with history itself."

When a picture has caused as much controversy as "Mission to Moscow", and is described both as "the most memorable document of our time" and "propaganda which falsifies history," it seems to me that such divergent opinions from equally responsible citizens must reflect conflicting attitudes on the political subject-matter more than on the picture itself. However, in his temperate analysis of the film in a recent Sunday column. "The Times'" critic suggests that those entrusted with writing and producing pictures have a grave responsibility when they deal factually with contemporary themes of vital importance to human beings everywhere in the world—and this is undoubtedly true. As author of the screen play, I feel it may be illuminating to the public, and even to the film's detractors, to make a clear statement of how we endeavoured to discharge that responsibility

First of all, what was our intention —to "whitewash" Russia, as some critics glibly sum it up? No. "Whitewash" implies painting white over a darker colour, thus assuming that we had unfavourable preconceptions about the Soviet Union which we were anxious to cover up.

Frankly, I was as confused as most other people on the actual role the Soviet Union was playing in the turmoil of world events and Mr. Davies' brilliant, legalistic fact-finding and reporting gave me the first impression of an objective appraisal that I could trust. However, the canvas of our picture soon expanded beyond the boundaries of the book, and many other valid sources of information had to be tapped in an attempt to fit each actor into his true historic role.

Drama vs. History

Next came the moulding of these events into a dramatic pattern—and in this process factual liberties had to be taken. How else could a coherent story be told in two hours? History provides us with the materials of drama, but it doesn't conveniently arrange them into scenes or bind them to any unifying theme. That is the province of the dramatist as distinct from the historian.

But here it must be admitted that the decisions were not easy. When is the changing of a fact the perversion of a truth? As nearly as I can state it, we regarded a fact as inviolable as long as that fact represented an underlying truth which was significant to the audience's understanding and evaluation of the conduct of a nation or of an individual in the unfolding political events.

Let us consider an example: The most prevalent objection on the part of the picture's critics seems to be the telescoping of the two "purge" trials into one. Thus defendants who never actually appeared together are tried in the same court room in the film. This seemed to us justifiable, since months of testimony had to be concentrated into minutes of time, and since the consequent liberties with fact did not alter the substance of what the defendants confessed—taken from an authenticated transcript of the trial.

Another important accusation against the film's authenticity is the statement that it loads the political dice on the side of the Soviet leaders and against the English and French appeasers. Here I can only refer the objectors to the records as I found them—Soviet defence of the League and collective security at Geneva (minutes of the League Assembly); Soviet aid to the legal people's government of Spain invaded by Fascist armies (newspaper records); Soviet readiness to give military support to Czechoslovakia if the French Government kept its treaty obligation to come to that country's aid against Germany (direct unequivocal statement made during the crisis by the Soviet Government and confirmed by President Benes), and finally, the repeated but unheeded pleas of Stalin and other Soviet leeaders for an ironclad military alliance of the democratic powers

And equally clear are the records of the English and French Governments during that critical period in facing the same questions. The history of appeasement from the breakdown of the League to the last minute, when they knew war with Germany was inevitable despite all their concessions, is not a pretty record—and apparently it's not what our critics would like to expose to the public.

If, in the firm, the President of the United States seems "omniscient" —as some of our critics complain— and his reactionary and isolationist opponents seem incredibly blind or even sinister, we did not invent the contrast. Again I refer the objectors to the records—even the Congressional Records.

Finnish Issue

It is also contended that we give Russia's side of the Finnish dispute without giving Finland's. Judging by the gasp that goes up from the audience when Davies gives a clear statement of why the Russians went into Finland, it seems evident that Finland's side and only Finland's was very well publicized.

Finally, many fingers are pointed at us for not showing the less favourable internal aspect of the Soviet experiment. To a certain extent this is a valid criticism. In dramatizing Ambassador Davies' entry into Russia we made the mistake of portraying him and his family too quickly convinced of the well-being of the Soviet people and the benevolence of their government. However, in fairness let me point out that Mr. Davies does find imperfections and shortcomings in Soviet achievements during the course of the picture.

In pursuing our purpose of projecting the simplified but essential historical truth of this period, certain "heroes" emerged—the President of the United States; the statesmen of the Soviet Union, the present Prime Minister of Great Britain and other men of good-will who foresaw what was happening and did all in their power to avert the tragedy of war. Now some people obviously don't like the "heroes"—they find them politically distasteful. These elements have a right to their preferences. Their quarrel is, however, not with us or the picture or Mr. Daves but with history itself—history which in recent years has been unkind to their prejudices.

T. B. Can Be Cured

By ANNE SCOTT-JAMES

It is now an established fact that medical science can beat tuberculosis; but if the battle is to be successful, the disease must be diagnosed in its early stages. An important weapon in the battle is mass radiography. How that weapon is being used in Britain is described in this article.

Tuberculosis is no longer one of the tragic incurable diseases. Medical science call beat it. But if science is to have a fair chance in the battle, the disease must be detected and attacked in the early stages. The longer it is neglected, the harder it is to cure.

Photography is an important new weapon in the war against tuberculosis. It is not a cure. But it is a valuable preventive. Several hundred people a day can file up in front of a single camera to have their chests X-rayed. The photographs, taken on a miniature film, will show the slightest symptoms of the T. B. bacillus.

This form of photography—called 'mass radiography'—is becoming available to more and more groups of workers. It is already used in the Army and in a number of factories Now, in London, the L.C.C. has a mobile radiography unit which travels from one borough to another In each district, departments, offices, and factories are asked to cooperate, to tell their workers about it, to help them find the time to go along to be X-rayed.

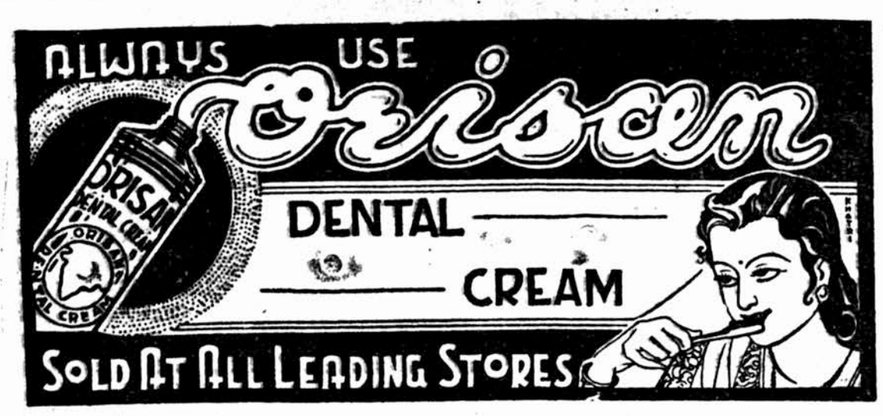
Of course, there is no sort of compulsion. Workers decide entirely for themselves whether they will go or not. But it is important that everyone should go who can. There has been a marked increase in T.B. since the war. Blackout conditions, long hours, lack of air and exercise have done their damage. If every new case could be detected right at the beginning, the number of deaths from T.B., instead of increasing, could be brought down almost to vanishing point.

Having one's chest X-rayed is the simplest process in the world. All that the X-ray volunteer has to do is to find ten or fifteen minutes to go to the nearest centre. At the centre, you strip to the waist (women are given white linen sun-bathing tops to wear); pass into the record room, where you give particulars of your name, address and so on for the files then into the X-ray room where the photographing process takes about one second. All one does is to stand on the machine take a deep breath, listen for the click of the X-ray camera—and it's all over.

The photographs are taken one after another on a 35-milimetre film; afterwards, they are developed, projected on to a screen, and examined by a specialist. Ninety-nine photographs out of a hundred show a negative result—no sign of disease in the lungs at all. About one percent of the photographs show something abnormal, and these people are asked to come again for a larger photograph. This may prove that there is nothing wrong after all—perhaps the miniature picture was a faulty exposure. But if there is something wrong, the patient is urged to have free treatment at once. At this early stage there is every chance of a complete cure. For people who have a home to maintain there is a scheme for financial help.

This simple, straightforward attack on T.B. ought to do even more than detect cases in the early stages. It should help to dispel the false horror and fear with which many of us still regard tuberculosis. Many class it with leprosy as an unclean and highly catchable disease, and shun people who have it. And so, a reluctance has grown up to face the possibility of T.B. People who suspect they have it refuse to see a doctor, and prefer to die utterly uncared for rather than know the truth.

Mass radiography will probably help to break down this attitude. It lifts the subject of tuberculosis right out of the shadowy realm of the unknown, and makes it clean and clinical. After the war there is sure to be more mass radiography units available to all classes of workers.



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All-India Muslim Majlis Chief Greets Mahatma

ACQUAINTS GANDHIJI WITH OBJECTS OF ORGANISATION AND HOPES TO MEET HIM AFTER RECOVERY

ALLAHABAD, May 20.

Mr. A. M. Khwaja, President of the All-India Muslim Majlis, has communicated to Gandhiji the aims and objects of the Majlis which was recently formed after the Nationalist Muslim Conference at Delhi, Mr. Khwaja proposes to see Gandhiji after his complete recovery.

It is understood that Muslims of Aligarh are showing keen interest in the Majlis and shortly city and district branches will be formed. The President is likely to announce the names of the members of his Working Committee shortly.—United Press.

Mental Distress Disturbs Sleep

Doctors Request Interviewers To Give Gandhiji Opportunity To Rest

BOMBAY, Saturday.

"Gandhiji bore fairly well the physical strain of his visit to the damaged areas: but mentally he was too distressed to sleep well. He is feeling a little better this morning", states to-day's bulletin on Mahatma Gandhi's health, signed by Doctors M. D. Gilder and Sushila Nayar.

It adds: "With the report of an improvement in his health, demands for interviews have again become insistent. We wish to remind the public that if he is to regain his former strengt,h rest must be continued for some time to come."

Music At Gandhi-Gram

In the afternoon Gandhiji was treated to music, mostly to Bhajans, by Hirabai Barodekar.

During prayer time a large crowd was present.

Kamaladevi Sees Mahatma

Srimati Kamaladevi, President of the All-India Women's Conference, was among the visitors who saw Mahatma Gandhi to-day.

MALICIOUS PROPAGANDA

Mr. C. K. Narayanswami writes:—Saturday's 'Blitz' has a double lined box Editorial under the caption "Saboteur's Devilish Bid to 'Sabotage' Gandhiji". The editorial attributes to "some members of the Congress Socialist Party" the strange story that Mahatma Gandhi's release was a consequence "not so much of the Mahatma's *physical* as of his *mental* sickness". It further says: "The Congress Socialists are known to be opposed tooth and nail to the Gandhian programme. They have openly declared the Mahatma to be Britain's policeman in India....."

Ordinarily the "Blitz" calumny would not attract any attention for the simple reason that its political sense is that of the veriest tyro. But the campaign to discredit the Congress Socialist Party which has been assiduously carried on ever since August 9th, 1942 has assumed a venomous character specially after Gandhiji's release. The source of the campaign is notorious. Gandhiji as Britain's policeman in India! The characterisation is too familiar. For years he has been described and decried as such by the Communist Party of India. No wonder 'Blitz' takes its political lessons from those struck by, what Lenin called, infantile disorder. The "responsible authority" on whom this journal has relied to dole out its editorial is too obvious to need mention. "Gandhi as policeman of Britain in India"—that exposes it!

Gandhiji To Reply To Tottenham Pamphlet

BOMBAY, May 19: The spcial correspondent of the "India Press Service" learns that Mahatma Gandhi has written a comprehensive reply to the pamphlet entitled 'Congress Responsibility' published by the Home Department of the Government of India soon after the August disturbances holding Congress as responsible for the country-wide disturbances and sabotage. Gandhiji is reported to have rebutted all the charges made against the Congress in that pamphlet It is stated that he will seek the permission of the Viceroy to publish it, in fairness to Congress. It is said that the manuscript is more than 100 typed pages containing 60,000 words.—India Press Service.

JINNAH WISHES TO SAY NOTHING NOW

SRINAGAR, May 19.

"I do not wish to say anything at present", said Mr. M. A. Jinnah when shown copy of Mr. Gandhi's letter of last year.

Mr. Jinnah is resting at a lonely spot adjoining to the historic Nishat Gardens on the bank of Dal Lake, ten miles from Srinagar.

He is expected to stay here till the end of June.—A. P.

PATH CLEAR FOR FRESH EFFORTS

LONDON, May 20: "Although Mr. Gandhi's release was strictly on medical grounds, hopes have begun to stir that his return to freedom will clear the way for fresh efforts to reach a settlement of the Indian problem", states the "Yorkshire Post" to-day.

"We, in this country, still remembering the severe disappointment of the failure of the Cripps mission, are schooled not to base any great hopes upon talks of renewed search for settlement in India; but we are anxious that our own statesmen should seize every opportunity to combat suspicion and ill feeling and induce Indian parties to discuss together India's future constitution.

We are confident that the Viceroy will do everything open to him to accomplish these ends; and we hope that the conference of Dominion Premiers just completed in London with the demonstration it has given of the benfits of free association in the British system, will stimulate fresh efforts to promote an understanding. India has a place of dignity and influence to occupy in the world family. She cannot secure that place until all Indians learn to work together.—Reuter.

Congress Volunteers' Sentence Reduced

NEW DELHI, May 20: The District and Session Judge, Delhi, rejected the appeal of 17 Congress volunteers, but reduced their sentence from one year to six months' Rigorous Imprisonment.

The accused were arrested on January 26 this year for staging a demonstration in front of the Imperial Secretariat.—A. P.

CALICUT DAILY RESUMES EDITORIAL

CALICUT, May 20.

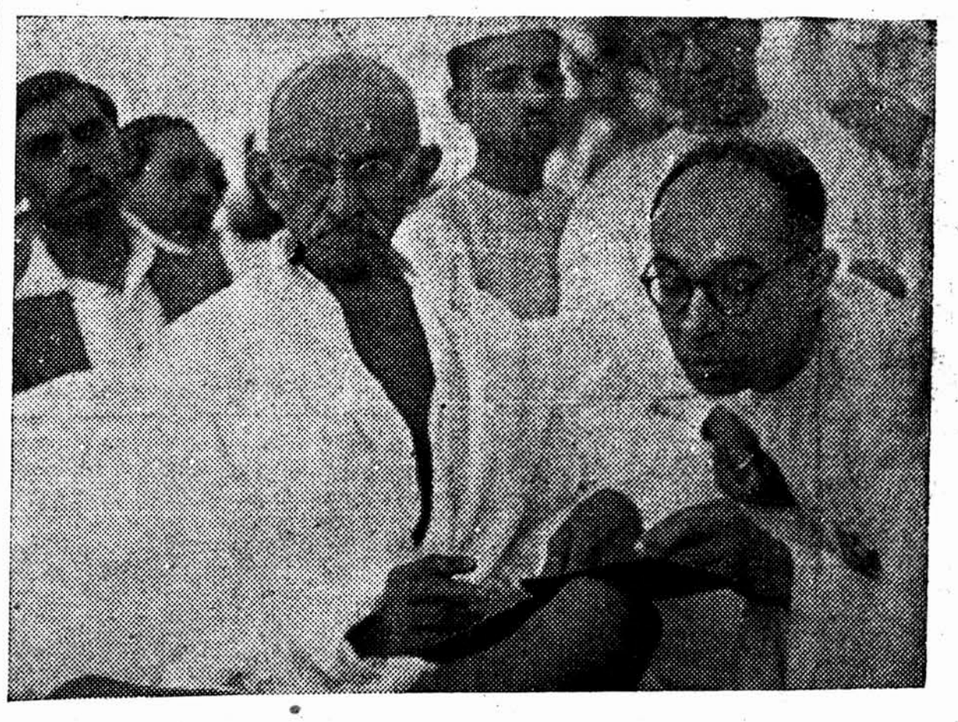
The 'Mathrubhumi', a local Nationalist Daily, which has been appearing without editorials since April 1942 following the Government's action against the paper in respect of an article on the alleged activities of the Australian Soldiers in Cochin, has appeared again today with an editorial, after the lapse of two years. The paper says that the past events and present situation demand that a correct lead must be given by newspapers to the public.—United Press.

22 Arrested Under D. I. R.

SUKKUR, May 19: The Sukkur police have arrested 22 persons of the town under section 129 of the Defence of India Rules. Two of them were candidates for the ensuing municipal elections. Some more persons who are wanted by the police in connection with their drive against crime are said to be absconding.—A. P.

BABA GURU DUTT

AMRITSAR, May 20: Charges have been framed under Ordinance 3 and the Defence of India Rules against Baba Gurdit Singh (of "Koma Ghatta Maru" fame) for not reaching village of Sirhari (Amritsar District) within 24 hours after his release from the Old Central Jail, Multan where he was a detenu.—United Press.



Gandhiji seen with his Secretary Mr. Pyarelal during prayer time at Juhu on Friday evening.

GARRISON OF MYITKYINA BEING DRIVEN OUT

Heavy Fighting On Both Sides Of Imphal-Dimapur Road: Operations In Mogaung Valley Continue

KANDY, May 20.

To-day's "S.E.A.C." 'communique' says:—

The Japanese garrison of Myitkyina is being driven out by American-Chinese forces who are steadily closing in from three sides. One column of our troops has advanced to the Irrawaddy river, four miles south of Myitkyina.

The village of Zigyun has been occupied and our patrols entered Katkvo across the river.

A further column is advancing from Charpate, four miles north of Myitkyina.

In the Mogaung Valley, operations continue against the trapped remnants of the garrison of Warong. Elements of the Chinese 22nd Division are holding their road block across the Kamaing road south of Malakawng in the face of enemy attacks.

There was no major activity elsewhere on the Burma front during the 19th May.

Two small counter-attacks on our positions near the outskirts of Kohima were repulsed, while to the east near Jessami road blocks were established across the enemy's line of communications.

Six miles south-west of Bishenpur and also on the Silchar track, our troops, advancing against weak opposition, occupied enemy positions and captured material which included two guns.

SWEEP OVER ENEMY AIRFIELDS

AIR: In a sweep over enemy airfields on 18th May, long range R. A. F. fighters destroyed four Japanese fighters and one bomber on the ground at Shwebo. Other R. A. F. fighters intercepted two enemy sweeps over the Bishenpur-Palel area, and destroyed in combat two Japanese fighters, with five probables and seven damaged.

U.S.A.A.F. fighter units also intercepted enemy aircraft over Myitkyina airfields on the same day, and damaged four of them.

TIDDIM ROAD BOMBED

On 18th and 19th May U. S. A. A. F, R. A. F. and I. A. F. fighter-bombers and dive-bombers of the Third Tactical Air Force, Eastern Air Command, operated in close support of our ground forces. U.S.A.A.F. mediums of the strategic air force attacked bridges over the Mu River, and R. A. F. mediums bombed the Tiddim Road.

On 19th May, U.S.A.A.F. air commando fighters destroyed two enemy aircraft on Kawlin west airfield, and shot down one enemy bomber and two fighters in air combats near Indawgyi Lake. Two further bombers and two fighters were damaged. On the same day, two enemy fighters were destroyed on the ground at Nawnghkio in the Mandalay area by R. A. F.

The total enemy losses on 18th and 19th May were 17 aircraft destroyed six probables, and 17 damaged. We lost two aircraft.

FIGHTING ON IMPHAL-DIMAPUR ROAD

IMPHAL FRONT, May 18: Stubborn Japanese opposition, writes a 14th Army observer, is being encountered by four corps troops who have been advancing on a section of the main Imphal-Dimapur Road some miles north of Imphal. This move to clear the road began on May 15.

In the initial stage of the operation British troops carried out a difficult all night march through the foothills west of the main road to reach a position overlooking the road behind the enemy. Simultaneously Indian troops made a shorter encircling movement to come in on the road further south.

By noon on May 15, Kanglatongbi, a village on the road, was in our hands while to the east, British and Gurkha troops were gaining a foothold on the three thousand feet Kanglatongbi ridge in the face of fierce opposition.

The position at present, concludes the 14th army observer, is that the main Japanese positions appear to be astride the road a few miles north of Kanglatongbi, although a series of isolated strong points on a ridge to the east of the road still hamper our progress on that flank.

There has been heavy fighting both to the east and to the west of the road involving British and Indian troops and resulting in heavy Japanese casualties.

CIVIL LIBERTIES CONFERENCE

Indore Govt. Refuses Permission To Use Town Hall?

(From A Correspondent)

INDORE, May 20.

The Indore Municipal Council has decided to accord a reception to Mr. S. A. Brelvi, President of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference, and Mr. S. M. Agarkar, Editor of "Swarajya", who are coming here on the 28th instant to preside over the Indore State Civil Liberties Conference and the First Central India States Journalists' Conference respectively. It is reliably learnt that the Indore Government has refused to permit the use of Indore Town Hall for holding the Civil Liberties Conference.

On Pacific Front

ALLIED ATTACK ON WAKDE ISLAND

Allied Hq. in New Guinea, May 20.

The Japanese are now penned into one half of a square mile in the north-east corner of the Japanese Wakde Island. This area has been shelled by United States destroyers. The Wakde airstrip is already being worked over by engineers. An army spokesman said: "the strip will be ready for use soon."—Reuter.

AIR ATTACK ON JAP NAVAL BASE

Allied Hq. South-West Pacific, May 20.

A 'communique' announcing the attack on Sourabaya says: "North-western sector: Java: A co-ordinated air strike on Sourabaya involving forces from the south-east and central Pacific area and South-West Pacific area has been completed involving British, American, Australian, French and Dutch units of various categories. Operating in conjunction with supporting forces, the Japanese naval base was attacked after dawn on Wednesday by British and American aircraft carriers. Shipping, naval installations, an oil refinery and acrodromes suffered heavy damage as the result of direct hits. The enemy's reaction was weak and all our planes returned safely having covered a flight of approximately 2,500 miles."—Reuter.

ALLIES GO INTO THE OFFENSIVE

A WEEK OF WAR By N. G. Jog

MAY, 19.

Good news has come during the last week regarding the operations in Burma, the offensive in Italy and the advance of General MacArthur in Dutch New Guinea. And though the most important news of all—the opening of the scond front—has yet to come, there are certain heartening features about its very absence, as will be presently seen.

Let us begin with the Indo-Burma front about which considerable uneasiness has existed in public mind in spite of the chirpy communiques from the S.E.A.C. headquarters. Public apprehension is understandable in view of the fact that what was expected to be a decisive offensive for the reconquest of Burma has turned out so far to be an undecisive defensive operation for the Manipur Road.

The formation of the South-East Asia Command and the colourful personality of Admiral Lord Mountbatten had naturally raised our hopes high. As it is, the 1944 campaign in Burma has proved something of an anti-climax. Only the dogged advance of General Stilwell's Sino-American forces into northern Burma and the brilliant exploits of the Chindits have just saved it from being a downright disappointment.

The first Allied thrust was in Arakan and it progressed very admirably, indeed, culminating on March 13 in the recapture of Buthidaung. More heartening than this success was the complete smashing of the Jap counter-offensive by the 14th Army. It was proof positive that the Allied soldiers were now sufficiently trained and equipped to beat the Jap at his own game. The operations, moreover, revealed in a striking manner the part that can be played by the Allied air force in supplying forces which are temporarily cut off and thus keeping them in fighting trim. Arakan first revealed in a big way the new successful strategy of box operations.

Tables Turned

The more is the pity, therefore, that the 14th Army could not keep up its progress and round off the Arakan campaign with the occupation of Akyab. That port situated just beyond the tip of the Mayu peninsula is not merely a desirable prize in itself but also a vital foothold for the amphibious or tribian operations which alone will be able to reconquer Burma.

Not only did the Allies fail to occupy Akyab in the second successive campaign, but recently they had even to evacuate Patewa and Buthidaung. This may have been solely due to the necessity of strategic readjustments, as was given out by the S.E.A.C. headquarters. But it cannot be at the same time denied that at least from the propaganda angle, it did constitute a reverse.

It was, of course, the surprise Jap offensive in the central sector which was responsible for the inconclusive ending of the Arakan campaign. It was only recently established by the capture of an order of the day issued on the eve of the attack on Imphal by General Mutaguchi, the Commander of the Jap 15th Army, that the enemy launched a full-scale offensive and not merely a "token" invasion of India, as General Auchinleck himself thought it to be. Had S.E.A.C. gauged the Jap intentions more correctly and not tried to play down his operations in a rather clumsy way, it would have avoided the unfortunate confusion and misapprehensions created in public mind.

General Mutaguchi declared in his order: "The day when the Rising Sun shall proclaim our definite victory in India is not far off....By its very decisive nature, the success of this operation will have a profound effect upon the course of the war and may even lead to its conclusion!" Viewed against the background of this martial bombast and also against the heroic announcement made a few weeks ago by General Tojo, the recent events on the Manipur front no doubt gain a new meaning. At least we have the satisfaction of feeling that the 14th Allied Army has turned the tables upon the Jap 15th Army.

Sino-American Success

At any rate almost so. For though it is now nearly two months that the Japs infiltrated into the Manipur area and started a systematic cutting of the Manipur-Tiddim road their concrete gains so far have amounted to precious little. Imphal has consistently defied them and further north their plans of getting astride the Assam railway have been completely failed. Their progress on the Bishenpur-Silchar track has been cut short and last week they suffered a conclusive reverse with their ejection from the Kohima ridge.

Though it is absurd to go into ecstasies over the reoccupation of the Kohima area—the Jap should never have been allowed to drop his visiting card there at all—it cannot be denied that it will have a vital bearing on future developments. This will help to reopen the Manipur Road right up to Imphal if not beyond just when the first showers of monsoon have begun to fall. On the other hand, the Jap forces which have infiltrated so far away from their base will not only lose their freedom of movement but will also find the problem of supply an extremely acute one, once the monsoon starts in right earnest.

Strategically far more important than the "victory" of Kohima was the capture of the Myitkyina airfield last Thursday which in its turn will soon lead to the occupation of Myitkyina town, which has been the main objective of General Stilwell. The attack on the aerodrome came at the end of a 20-day march by three Sino-American columns under Brigadier Frank Merrill and their success —again coming just on the eve of monsoon—has changed the entire strategic picture in that area.

It is significant that Chinese forces also launched an offensive in Western Yunnan and crossed the Salween river at a number of points. Their aim is, of course, to link up with General Stilwell and General Lentaigne, the leader of the Chindits. They are already within 120 miles of the former and now that Myitkyina is about to fall, their progress will be hastened unless the Jap troops guarding the Mogaung valley move to intercept them. But thereby they will only be playing in the hands of Brigadier Merrill. The Burma Road may take some time yet to be opened but the Jap troops in northern Burma are certainly well trapped now.

Another Myth Broken

The Allied all-out offensive in Italy has proved a spectacular success so far. Though General Alexander's patience and passion for thoroughness are well-known, there were some doubts as to how his attack would progress in view of the background of the Italian campaign and the fierce reistance of the German forces. Especially the last battle of Cassino had wellnigh proved the impregnability of Marshal Kesselring's defences. It was known that beyond the Gustav Line in which he had dug himself for the last so many months, there was the Adolf Hitler Line stretching to a depth of miles. It was necessary, therefore to keep one's optimism under check.

The result of the first week's fighting has nevertheless exceeded our highest hopes Alexander has out-generalled and outfought Kesselring. The latter seems to have been taken completely aback by the sudden appearance of the Eighth Army on his front—its switching over being a marvel of organsation and one of the best-kept surprises of the present war. The Gustav Line south of the Appennines has ceased to exist. The dreaded Cassino and Monastery Hill have fallen into the hands of the Allies. being partly evacuated by the enemy and partly stormed by the Allies. One German division and a large part of the famous first parachute division have een destroyed. And 7,000 prisoners have been taken, 1,500 of them being at Cassino alone.

This is a triumph in every sense of the word, even though in magnitude it may not compare with those on the Russian front or General Alexander's own previous triumphs in Africa. Ever since they lost their myth of invincibility, the Nazis have been trying to build up a myth of impregnability. Colour was lent to that myth by the continued failure of the Allies to reduce Cassino and much less to march to Rome. The stalemate on the Italian front has now been decisively broken and with it the new myth of German impregnability.

Fate Of Rome

The Adolf Hitler Line is now under attack and it remains to be seen how much longer than the Gustav Line can it withstand the Allied onslaught. There is, of course, the possibility of its being outflanked altogether. The Allies have been reported by the Paris Radio to have launched several attacks in the Nettuno beach-head, which provides a significant pointer to likely developments. The prolonged inactivity on the Anzio area has naturally intrigued many of us and General Alexander may well have a surprise up his sleeve.

Whatever that may be, once the Adolf Hitler Line is stormed or neutralised from the rear, the road to Rome will be open. There are no major natural barriers to negotiate, though Kesselring has tried to exploit every factor in his favour like, e.g., the flooding of the Pontine Marshes. Again the Allies hold a complete mastery of the air and the problem of reinforcements will prove for the German Commander a difficult one to solve.

The fall of Rome, therefore, appears a matter of days now. I do not think that the Germans will make a decisive attempt to hold the Eternal City, once the Adolf Line is lost. This is not because they respect its sacred character but solely on strategical grounds. It will be remembered that Rommel made no attempt to defend Tripoli in spite of its prestige value as the capital of Italian Africa. He was more concerned with pulling out his troops to the relative security of Tunisia. Similarly Kesselring may decide to declare Rome an open city, surrender it without fight and fall back on the river Po, which was originally intended to be his main line of defence. It is certainly no mean achievement that he had gained eight long months by his dogged defence in central Italy!

A Pointer

Alexander's is, of course, merely "the first blow in the final destruction of the Nazis" to quote his own order of the day. This is a plain hint that others are about to fall—that the long-deferred second front will soon be opened. In this connection, it is significant to note that during the last week there has been a complete cessation of all major air activity. That is the absence of news to which I referred at the outset.

The Allied bombing raids over Germany and occupied Europe had reached almost the nature of an air invasion. And suddenly they have stopped. May it be that this is truly the lull before the storm, that the air armadas are being trimmed and the air crews rested prior to the biggest air offensive of all time—the offensive that will crack open the second front?

THE LAST PAGE

(Continued from Page 14)

father's country. The many books he has written include three on India—"Modern India", "India To-day" and the more recent "Guide To The Problem of India."

As a Communist, Palme Dutt was once a bitter critic of Gandhiji and the Congress which was regarded by Communists at that time as a "bourgeoise reformist" organisation. Since then much water has flowed down both Ganges and Volga, and the Communists have reorientated their attitude to the Congress. This is clearly reflected in Palme Dutt's recent writings which appear regularly in "Daily Worker" and "Labour Monthly," the organs of the British Communist Party.

This is what Dutt wrote shortly after Gandhiji's and other leaders' arrests in August, 1942:—

> "At the moment of the supreme Axis attack throughout the world, when the fortunes of the United Nations are swaying in the balance, a nation of four hundred millions, one fifth of humanity, has been treated as an enemy for the crime of demanding to be an ally.....
>
> "The Congress was asking for the recognition of a free India as an ally of the United Nations; and this demand..... has been met with police cells, lathi charges, whipping ordinances.....
>
> "The Indian people are not allies of Fascism. They passionately desire national freedom, and have struggled for it for decades with signal self-sacrifice heroism and solidarity, in the course of which they have built up their National Congress, a popular movement of millions without parallel in the world. ..... Precisely because they stand for freedom, they are opposed to Fascism..... India is far more deeply and sincerely anti-Fascist than many National Government Ministers in Britain." (Did he mean Mr. Amery?)

It is on this issue that Dutt proposes to fight Amery. And every one in India, however much he or she might disagree with the Communist Party policies, will wish him all success in his campaign. For India has many a score to settle with Mister Leopold Stennet Amery!

*

If Palme Dutt succeeds in defeating Amery, he will be the fourth Indian to sit in the House of Commons. The first was Sir M. M. Bhavnagri, a loyalist of the old type. The second was Dadabhoy Nowroji, the Grand Old Man of India. The third was Comrade Shapurji Saklatwalla, a fiery Communist.

*

"30 Months In Russia"

I am glad to hear that "30 Months In Russia" (Karnatak Publishing House, Bombay) by friend D. G. Tendulkar has proved to be a best-seller in more than one language. The original English version has gone through three editions. The book has proved popular also in Marathi and Kannada. The Hindustani edition has just come out and now a Gujarati translation is being printed. This popularity is an indication of the great interest being taken today in Soviet affairs as also a tribute to the interesting and simple style of the author. This point, we notice, is also emphasized by Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, in a letter that is printed as a Preface to the Hindustani edition. In her own inimitable style she writes to the author:

> "I was still too ill when I received your letter to be able to do courteous acts in the way of thanks, but believe me your little book did not remain unread or unappreciated. Since then it has become like you a real "vagabond" and never stays in its proper home on a shelf. It goes from hand to hand, and at the moment I don't know who has borrowed or stolen it.
>
> "I liked your very frank, direct and quite personal approach and your simple and vivid exprssion of your *own* impressions, without conscious or unconscious quotation or paraphrase of other people's impressions and reactions. That is a real asset in writing of a country which is to-day the glamour land of the west and apt to use up all the adjectives in any language."

Mr. M. Sayadiantz of the Asia Films of China and distributor of Soviet Films of Russia.

Greek Guerilla Armies To Be Disbanded?

Political Conference Takes Step To Stop Mutual Fights

BEIRUT, May 19.

Reuter's special correspondent at Beirut writes:

Greek guerilla armies which have on occasions fought each other instead of fighting the invader may cease to exist. Representatives attending the Greek Political Conference now being held here have proposed on behalf of two out of the three Greek Guerilla armies—Edes and Ekka, both democratic organisations—that if it is necessary for the reorganisation of the People's army and the continuation of the war at the side of Allies they will disarm their members.

The attitude of the third Guerilla army, Elas—army for national liberation—has not yet been defined although its leaders have agreed in principle to the necessity for a single united army.

German Consulate At Tangier Closed Down

NEW YORK, May 20: The Morocco radio reported to-day that the German consulate at Tangier has been "discreetly closed down."

The radio added "all the German staff disappeared in the night, as well as the German flag."—Reuter.

BAN ON ASHRAF'S ENTRY INTO PUNJAB

LAHORE, May 20: Dr. K. M. Ashraf, Communist Leader, who arrived here on May 16 and is staying with Begum Iftikharuddin, was taken to a police station as "he had defied an order served on him in 1940 banning his entry into the Punjab."

Dr. Ashraf informed the police that he was not aware of any such order and he had come to the Punjab about half a dozen times since then.

He was however, let off after a few hours.—United Press.

TEXTILE COMMISSIONER'S ORDER ON AHMEDABAD MILLS.

BOMBAY, May 20: It is understood that the Textile Commissioner has served an order on Girdharlal Harivallabh Das mills of Ahmedabad directing them not to dispose of their goods to anyone unless authorised by him to do so.

It appears a similar order served a few days ago on Harivallabh Das Mulchand Mills has been withdrawn. —A. P.

Bhopal People's Leader Released

BHOPAL, May 20.—Mr. Shakirali Khan, ex-President of the Bhopal State People's Conference and member of the Working Committee of the Central India States' People's Conference, has been released from the Bhopal Jail on completion of his term of sentence. He was arrested in September, 1942 for adopting a resolution in support of the August resolution of the Congress and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment.—United Press.

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KHALIQ-UZ-ZAMAN'S CALL FOR UNITY

"WORLD WON'T FORGIVE US IF WE FAIL TO MAKE UP DIFFERENCES"

Sees Bright Prospects Of Gandhi-Jinnah Meeting In Release Of Letter

TANJORE, May 20.

"The world will not excuse us if we fail to make up our differences and continue to keep up the strife. I feel that once Mahatma Gandhi makes up his mind to concede Pakistan he has the strength and influence enough to carry his people with him", observed Chowdhury Khaliq-Uz-zaman, member of the All-India Muslim League Working Committee, presiding over the Tanjore District Muslim League conference this evening.

The release of Mahatma Gandhi he added, had opened the door for a fresh approach to the political problem on his regaining his health and vitality which everyone would sincerely wish for.

Great changes had taken place in the world since the passing of the resolution on August 8 and they were bound to have far-reaching consequences on the political and economic life of India.

He hoped now that by settling the internal disputes, India would be able to raise her status and be in a position to make her contribution to the solution of the world problems.

"The sugar coated pill of geographical unity" Chowdhury Khaliq-Uz-Zaman said, 'is a bold bid for the perpetuation of British domniation by keeping the people of India divided between themselves and should serve as a pointer to all those who aspire for real and lasting freedom for India.

Once this basic feature of British policy in India is fully appreciated by the major community, the acceptance of Pakistan is bound to follow."

He recalled that Mahatma Gandhi once wrote in his paper that no one could deny the Muslims the right of self-determination and said that the desire of Muslims of India could be tested on that issue if that had not already been sufficiently vindicated.

THEY CAN MEET NOW

Making a passing reference to the publication of Gandhi-Jinnah correspondence Chowdhury Khaliq-uz-Zaman said "Both the writer and the addressee can now meet without any hindrance and convince the expectant public by a settlement of Hindu-Muslim question that a meeting at any time earlier would have yielded equally good results and saved the country the agony of waiting for them for a year."

The President then took up the Palestine question which had been in the forefront of Muslim politics and traced the events that led to the publication of White Paper in 1939 restricting Jewish immigration into the country.

He said that efforts were being made by the Jews to influence the British Government through America and the Labour Party in England and warned that Muslim India and Arab countries would not take the revision of the White Paper lying down

The President also referred to the situation in Punjab and said that the Hindu Ministers were no parties to the so-called Sikandar-Jinnah Pact and obviously they could not bind the League to continue the coalition in the name of the Unionist Party if the Muslim League had come to the conclusion that the name of "Unionist Party" was being used for the suppression of the League organisation on whose behalf alone Qaid-e-Azam could have entered into the pact.

The conflict between the Punjab Ministry and the Muslim League had come and he hoped that the Muslims of the Punjab would rise up to the occasion.

TRIUMPH FOR LEAGUE

Dealing with the resolutions passed by the Muslim Nationalists recently at Delhi, Chowdhury Khaliq-Uz-Zaman considered it a triumph of the Muslim League that those who uptil now swore by the unity of India had been forced by Muslim public opinion not only to discard their nationalist Muslim label but also accepted the right of self-determination for provincial units in terms of Cripps proposals".

It is strange that the so-called lovers of independence are mentally so slavish that they are always found either standing behind the Hindu political shibboleths or plodding in the muddy pools of British brain waves—the attempt to keep the Congress in good humour and to find a place in Muslim politics is so patently ugly and crude that it is not going to deceive any one.

It shows lack of leadership in the camp, if the political creed of the Muslim Majlis is to be gathered from the President's statement, it is of a negative character —it is neither Pakistan nor complete independence", he concluded. —A. P.

Shia Demands

LUCKNOW, May 20: In pursuance of Mr. Jinnah's call to Shias, Ahras and Momins to come and join the Muslim League, it is reliably understood that the All India Shia Political Conference has authorised its President to correspond with Mr Jinnah and place before him Shiahs' attitude to present day political problems.

According to Shia English organ, "Moon Light" which publishes gist of Shia demands the proposed settlement should be on the basis of joint electorate with reservation of seats for Muslims in the future Indian constitution and failing that separate electorates to continue with sufficient guarantee for Shia representation, guarantee for the protection of the religious, cultural and social practices of Shias against attempts at interference by Muslim majority and lastly, in case of compromise between Hindus and Muslims to divide the country, Shias should be given an assurance that no government would be formed on the previous models of Muslim States.—Orient Press.

Death Duties Referred To Federal Court

(From Our Correspondent.)

NEW DELHI, May 19.

The question of death duties has been referred to the Federal Court for opinions on specific issues, I learn.

It is explained that the entry in the Government of India Act empowers Central Legislature to levy duties on succession. In Great Britain there are separate duties on estates and succession. Before undertaking legislation, Government is anxious to ascertain the interpretation by the Federal Court whether duties on succession would also cover duties on estates. I also learn, in case the Federal Court opines that succession does not include estates' duties Government of India may invoke the assistance of Parliament to make the position clear by suitable amendment to Government of India Act.

It is already known that receipts of death duties will be allocated to provinces. I also learn that the Federal Court is likely to invite provincial law officers to express their views before expressing its own opinion on the subject.

Japs Surround Loyang

Chinese Counter-Attack Along Peiping-Hankow Railway

CHUNGKING, May 20

The old Chinese town of Loyang on the Linghai river in Honan Province is now surrounded by the Japanese, says Reuter's Special Correspondent.

Artillery duels are taking place and hard street fighting is going on. Most of the town is still in Chinese hands. The vanguard of the Japanese columns is moving westward, an official Chinese spokesman said to-day.

The Japs are driving from Loyang along the railway and along the highway to the south of the railway and have reached a point about 60 miles from Tungkwan at the end of the Linghari river

The drive on the town of Tungkwan is possible but the Japanese are more likely to try to smash the Chinese forces in the field or drive them into the hills

The Chinese troops who breached the Peiping-Hankow Railway are now counter-attacking.—Reuter.

Windsor To Become U.S. Citizen?

Reported To Have Resigned Governorship Of Bahamas

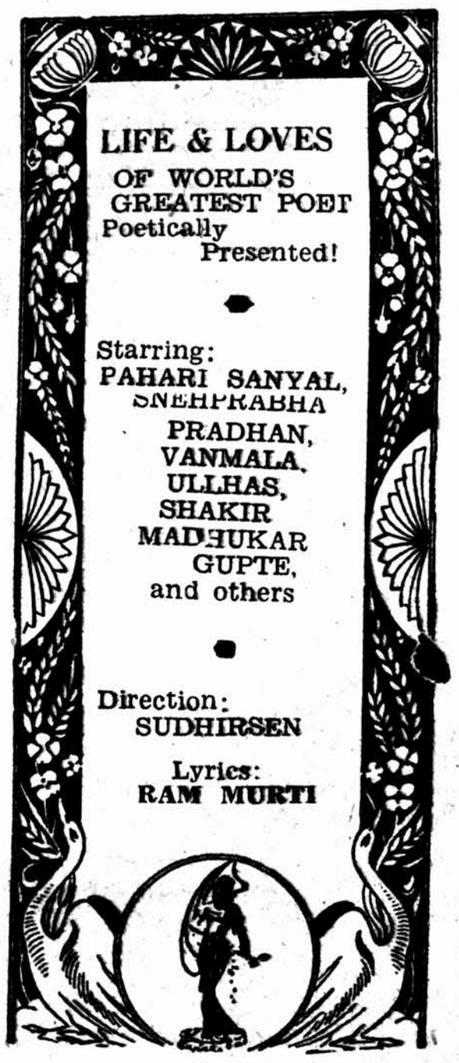
NEW YORK, May 19.

The 'New York Post" in a despatch from Washington today said that the Duke of Windsor had resigned his post as the Governor of the Bahamas. "He will attempt to become an American citizen as soon as it is accepted", said the despatch. There was no immediate confirmation here of this report. No official confirmation of this report was forthcoming in London tonight—Reuter.

ROSE SCHOOL OF DANCING

Adenwalla Mansion, Chowpatty Sea Face, next to Wilson College private and personal lessons in modern Ballroom daily. Special attention to beginners shy and nervous pupils. Guaranteed success.

NATIONAL PREMIERE ON FRIDAY, 26TH MAY 1944



RAJLAXMI PICTURES' Mammoth Spectacle!

MAHAKAVI

KALIDAS

From Friday 26th May at

Advance Booking: 10 a.m. to 12 noon 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. KRISHNA Dubash Theatre

'A Diamond Pictures' Paradise Release

MADRAS STRIKE CALLED OFF

Sequel To Municipal Commissioner's Assurance

MADRAS, May 20.

The conservancy staff strike in Madras city has been called off.

Most of the strikers who totalled about 3,000 turned up at the Corporation Office this morning and the Municipal Commissioner made it clear to them that unless they resumed work, no negotiations were possible with them. He had promised to examine their grievances and make a report to the Council and Government for consideration provided they immediately resumed work.

Accordingly the strikers called off the strike this afternoon.—A. P.

GREATEST CENTRE OF IRANIAN CULTURE

Iran Mission On Hyderabad's Achievement

(From Our Correspondent)

HYDERABAD (By Mail)

The Iranian Cultural Mission received a very warm welcome in Hyderabad, which, in the words of the Leader of the Mission, Ali Asghar Hikmat, "to-day is the greatest centre of Iranian culture outside Iran."

In a statement to the press immediately on arrival, he spoke of the patronage extended by Hyderabad to men of learning and letters.

"For many centuries," he said, "Hyderabad has been a refuge for our scholars and poets who have found here a home from home, and in their works and verses have praised the traditional patronage of learning and Arts by its noble Rulers.

The all-round progress made by Hyderabad, particularly the establishment of the Osmania University which represents a landmark in the field of Indian education and is associated with the name of its generous founder, His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar, is well-known in Iran."

He added: "We are naturally very much interested in seeing the working of this University where Urdu which is as much a descendant of Sanskrit as of Persian, is the medium of instruction and examination in all branches of learning in the highest stages."

"Here is a glorious and inspiring example of the noble ideal—Plain Living and High Thinking—this was the thought that was uppermost in our minds as we were ushered into the presence of His Exalted Highness and stood answering his kind enquiries about our stay in Hyderabad and our future programme."

In these words Ali Asghar Hikmat summed up his impressions of the audience, which the Nizam gave to members of the Iranian Cultural Mission.

More Acreage For Food Crops In Gujarat

(From Our Correspondent.)

AHMEDABAD, May 19.

According to official circles, an additional area of about 306,000 acres in the districts of Ahmedabad, Kaira, Broach and Surat will be brought under food crop cultivation according to the "grow-more food" legislation By this about 86,000 tons of grain will be added in the production of 1944-45.

Try one Trial Size Tube. Contains all active principles of the renowned NEEM TWIG, the Dentifrice of India with ingredients best in modern Dental Hygiene.

Govt. Anxious To Safeguard India's Interests

Acting Finance Member Initiates Discussion On Proposal For International Monetary Fund

NEW DELHI, May 19.

Mr. C. E. Jones, Acting Finance Member, initiating discussion on the proposals for an International Monetary Fund at to-day's meeting of the Consultative Committee of Economists gave the assurance that the Government of India were extremely anxious that India's position should receive due recognition in the constitution of this Fund, that full weight should be given to her importance and that no effort would be spared at the proposed International Conference to secure for India a quota which was appropriate to her general status and her importance in the international field

Mr. Jones commended three main outstanding characteristics of plan, namely, its simplicity, elasticity and freedom, and went on to explain to what extent the plan would definitely assist in the solution of the problem of India's Sterling Balances.

"We have not yet received a formal invitation to a conference in America, though we hope and expect that one will come," he said "If it comes, it will come in the traditional American fashion, abruptly and with very short notice; and the Government of India were desirous in the short time available to them to secure such measure of informed public opinion in India as was possible within the short time at our disposal."

INDIA'S REACTION.

Public reaction in India, he went on, had generally been, broadly speaking, that it would be to India's advantage to participate in an international monetary system, provided that India's special requirements were taken into account and provided that certain important aspects of her economy were duly safeguarded. Of the alternative forms which were originally put forward, Indian opinion on the whole favoured the Stabilisation Fund type of scheme as being more practicable than the more idealistic scheme put forward by Lord Keynes.

"Referring to India's Sterling Balances if a negotiated settlement should take the form of liquidation of those balances by annual instalments, I think we may reasonably assume that the annual payment of sterling in accordance with that scheme of liquidation would be treated as current transactions for the purposes of this present monetary plan, meanwhile, however, I would like to point out that there is ground for assuming that an international monetary arrangement on the lines indicated in the joint statement now before us would definitely fortify and strengthen sterling, and in the future of Sterling India has a very real interest because that is the currency in which her large external balances are held, I think it is also reasonable to assume that the institution of an International Monetary organisation on the lines contemplated would assist in bringing about the multilateral convertibility of sterling at a date earlier than otherwise would be the case.

If these are granted, then I would suggest that it is a logical corollary to say that a plan of this sort will definitely assist in the solution of the problem of India's Sterling Balances and in that sense and to that extent would be to the advantage of India.—A. P.

Late Mr. R. M. Chavan, an officer of the Bombay Auxiliary Fire Service, died in the recent Bombay explosion while he was on duty.

He was appointed a Section Leader in the Auxiliary Fire Service in April 1942. He was promoted and transferred to the Naigaum Fire Station where he was in charge for one year. Later he was transferred to Sopari Baug Fire Station and a month prior his untimely death he was transferred to the Quay Street Fire Station.

He was only 27 at the time of his death. He leaves behind him his mother and wife and a large circle of friends to mourn his death.

LEAGUE PROPAGANDA SCHEME

Committee Of Writers Appointed

DELHI, May 14.—Yesterday the Committee of Action had detailed discussion with Mr Jamil-ud-Din Ahmad of the Aligarh Muslim University on the scheme of propaganda and publicity which the latter had submitted previously to the Committee took following decisions.

The Provincial, District and City Muslim League will be directed to open libraries to which suitable literature would be supplied at concession rates by the Central Office of the All-India Muslim League. The Committee decided that propaganda secretary to the All-India Muslim League be appointed and Provincial Leagues be asked to appoint similar secretaries if they have not done so The detailed scheme of propaganda prepared by Mr. Jamil-ud-Din and Mr. Abdul Aziz were referred to the Secretary of the Central Office who will hold periodical meetings of the Provincial Propaganda Secretaries to evolve a plan for conducting propaganda and giving widest publicity to the policy, programme, and working of the League and its branches and activities of its leaders

With regard to the production of suitable literature on social, cultural political, economic, educational and other matters with special reference to Muslims' problems, needs and ideology, a Committee of Writers consisting of the following was appointed Mr. Anmad Shafi (Lahore), Dr. Qazi Said-ud-Din (Aligarh), Mr. Hasan Riaz (Delhi), and Mr. Jamil-ud-Din (Aligrah) as convener.

The function of the Committee will be to bring about uniformity of thought and ideology and to create greater political consciousness and deeper insight into problem among Muslims and to elucidate and clarify the Muslim position and view-point to others in India and abroad by means of (a) co-ordinating the efforts of Muslim writer and authors according to a plan; (b) obtaining from them articles on current questions to be published in the Office on fundamental problems form of pamphlet by the Central bearing on the present and the future of Musalmans.—"Dawn."

Ration Cards For Viceroy's Family

NEW DELHI, May 19.

The United Press learns that ration cards have been issued to the Viceroy, Countess Wavell and the Hon. Felicity Wavell, daughter of Lord Wavell, as rationing is going to be enforced in Delhi and New Delhi from May 29.—United Press

AHMEDABAD, May 19: The Textile Commissioner has passed order against Shree Girdharlal Harivallabhdas Mill that future production of the mill should be sold under directions of Textile Commissioner. Licenses of about 15 prominent cloth merchants which have been withdrawn at present for breach of Cloth Control Order are likely to be cancelled shortly.

DACCA QUIET

Police Precautionary Measures Continue

DACCA, May 20.

No incident was reported today upto one p m.

Police precautionary measures continue Barbed wire entanglements have been erected at the entrance of several lanes at Shankharibazar and Nawabpur. Two persons were arrested while carrying daggers yesterday, one at Chadnghat and the other at Royshaheb Bazar.

The postal department has suspended the delivery of money orders and insured articles to respective addressees and is instead giving window delivery.

Sir Nazimuddin Chief Minister, accompanied by Mr. A S T Jones, District Magistrate visited the Mitford Hospital today and saw the injured patients.—A P.

MICA INDUSTRY

Enquiry Committee To Be Appointed

(From Our Correspondent.)

NEW DELHI, May 20.

The Government of India have decided to appoint a Committee to inquire into all problems relating to consolidation and development of Mica Industry.

The Committee will be a small body of impartial persons who will be assisted in their investigation by Technical advisers drawn from Geological Survey of India Board of Scientific Industrial Research.

The Chairman and Secretary of the Committee will be whole time officers

Names of members of the Committee and of its assessors and advisers will be announced at an early date.

BOLSHEVIK PARTY OF INDIA DISSOLVED.

CALCUTTA, May 19: The Bolshevik Party of Indian has been dissolved.

A resolution adopted at the Second Congress of the Bolshevik Party of India held this week at Ananta Nagar, Sonarpur 1(24-Parganas) declares that the separate existence of the Bolshevik Party is against the interest of the working class and instructs all its members to join the communist party of India.

WOMEN'S MYSTERIOUS DEATH.

(From A Correspondent.)

INDORE, May 20.

A sensation was caused throughout the city when a woman of 30 expired. It is alleged that she set fire to her clothes and sprinkled kerosene also. Police help was called immediately. She was taken to Maharaja Tukojirao Hospital for postmortem. Further reports are awaited.

JAILED UNDER ESSENTIAL SERVICES ORDINANCE.

CHITTAGONG, May 19: For absenting himself from work without reasonable excuse, an employee of the municipality's water works has been sentenced to 3 months' unprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50 The conviction was under section 7 of the Essential Services Ordinance, which is applicable to the local municipality.—A. P.

Natal Indians Line-Up

Mr. Kajee On Implications Of Pretoria Agreement

(From Our Correspondent.)

DURBAN, May 19.

At a meeting of the committee of Natal Indian Congress held at Durban on Thursday at which representatives from branches throughout Natal were present, the action of Congress leaders in negotiating the Pretoria Agreement was confirmed by an overwhelming majority.

Mr. Kajee, Chairman of the committee and one of the negotiators of the Agreement described the recent negotiations which led to the meeting with Prime Minister and Administrator of Natal on April 18th. It was not sufficient, he said, for Indian community merely to protest against discriminatory legislation of the type of the "Pegging Act". There was obligation upon Indians as well as Europeans to discover positive solutions in factual situations. In such spirit negotiations had been carried out.

Mr. Kajee described the machinery of the agreement. The Union Government would initiate an ordinance in the provincial council which would make provision for the establishment of an Occupational Control Board of five members, two Indians, three Europeans with one European being a man of legal experience to act as Chairman. Functions of the board would be to control the occupation of dwellings in Durban in the localities where change of occupation from members of one racial group to another is the cause of racial friction. The board's function would be to obviate the unfortunate relations existing before the "pegging act".

COMMISSION FOR WELL-BEING OF NATAL INDIANS

PIETERMARITZBURG May 19.

The first public sitting of the Natal Indian Judicial Commission which met at Pietermaritzburg today has been fixed for June 7 at Durban

The new member representing Durban City Council, Mr A L Barns, was present. With Justice Broome who presided were Mr W M Power Senator D G Shepstone Mr S R Naidoo and Mr. A L Kajee

The Commission will report on all matters affecting the well-being and advancement of the permanent Indian population in Natal with special reference to housing, health, amenities civic status and also adequacy of educational, religious and recreational facilities.—Reuter

Arrested On Suspicion For Theft Of Cloth Valued At Rs. 20,000

On suspicion of being connected with a series of house breaking cases, in which a theft of gold ornaments and cloth valued at Rs 20,000 is involved, Ahmad Kassam was arrested by the Bombay C.I.D on Friday

Kassam was placed to-day before Mr. Oscar H Brown, Chief Presidency Magistrate Esplanade Police Court where he was ordered to be remanded into Police Custody till June 3, pending further police investigations.

NEW DELHI, May 20.—Mr S K Kirpalani, assumed charge of his duties as Indian Government Trade Commissioner in New York, on the 13th May, 1944.—A. P.

CITY AND SUBURBS

To-day

Hindu Vaiskakh Vad 14, 2000
Muslim: Jamadi-ul-Avval 27, 1363
Parsi: Ateer 20, 1313
Sunrise: 7-4 a.m., Sunset 8-6 p.m.
Hightide: 11-29, 23-24. Lowtide 4-52, 17-27

To-day's Engagements

BAND MUSIC:—At Parsi Colony, Dadar-Bombay, today (Sunday) from 6-45 to 8-45 p.m. (S T.) by the City Police Band.

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS:—Public Lecture on "Culture of Concentration." Jehangir Wadia, Flora Fountain today (Sunday) 6-15 p.m.

PROGRESSIVES WRITERS' ASSOCIATION:—A meeting of the Bombay *Progressive Writers 'Association will be held today (Sunday) at 4 p.m. at the Club of the Journalists' Association, Prospect Chambers, Hornby Road*

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY

INDIAN CONCERT at Victoria Gardens, Byculla-Bombay, today (Sunday) *from 6-30 to 8-30 pm (S T) by Mr G S Patankar*

INDIAN SPIRITUALIST SOCIETY;—A discourse and seances at 51, Govardhandas Building, Opp. Portuguese Church Girgaum today (Sunday) at 6 p.m.

BOMBAY HINDU SABHA:—The monthly meeting of the Working Committee at Bachubai Building, Damodar Hall Parel, at 4 p.m (N S T) today (Sunday).

FORT ARYA SAMAJ:—Pandit Shrudharji Siddhant Bhushan of Travancore will deliver a public lecture on "Science in Vedas" today (Sunday) at 9-30 a.m at the Samaj Mandir 96.98 Bora Bazar, Fort.

S. VARKAR'S 62ND BIRTHDAY

In connection with the 62nd birthday of Mr Vinayak Savarkar, there will be some items every night at Kitte Bhandari Hall from 22nd of May to 28th of May

SOCIAL WORKERS SOCIETY:—For sanitary rounds and visiting chawls, the members of the Society will meet today (Sunday) at 9-30 a.m at Cotton Green Station.

BOMBAY SPIRITUAL CENTRE:—A discourse on "Bhakti and Self-Surrender" by Srimathi Sow. Narayani Bai Kabali today (Sunday) at 5 p.m at Wasudeo Bhuvan, Laburnam Road.

FIRST BOMBAY PRESIDENCY WEIGHT LIFTING CHAMPIONSHIPS:—Will be held on Sunday the 21st instant at 3 p.m at the Asthika Samaj Hall Matunga. Mr. M R A Baig ex-Sheriff of Bombay, has kindly consented to preside and distribute the prizes

MAJLIS-E-ITTIHAD-O-TARAQQI

A meeting of Social and Economic Welfare Committee of the Majlis will be held today (Sunday) at 10-30 a.m at the Office of the Majlis. Mr Adam Adil will preside.

SARASWAT UNION:—(Bombay North): The Annual Social Gathering announced to be held on May 21, has been postponed for want of suitable premises Date and Place will be announced later.

BUDDHA SOCIETY:—Dr J C Chatterjee, B A (Cantab) will speak on "Philosophical Systems in the times of Lord "Buddha" at the Anand Vihara, Nair Hospital compound, near Bombay Central Station today (Sunday) at 10 a.m (S T)

SHRI TATVADNYAN MANDAL:—Today (Sunday) at 9-30 a.m at Shri Vithal Mandir, Vaidyawadi, Thakurdwar, Rd. Mr. Laxuman Eknath Safai, Advocate Poona will speak on Marriage and Varasa Right. Shri Jagadguru Shri Shankarcharya (Shri Khare) will preside.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT:—By Sangeetha Bhushanam S V Parthasarathy Iyengar Vocal, Sri: Gopalakrishnan of Madras Violin Sri: Mridangam Krishnamurty Rao of Tanjore at the Don Bosco High School Hall Matunga today (Sunday) from 5 p.m (S T)

GAUDIYA MISSION:—Upadesak Pandit Nitaidas Brahmachari Bhakti Sastry Ragalankar on "Process of chanting the Divine Name" in English today (Sunday) at 6-30 p.m Culliandas Building, Gowalia Tank Road. "Sankirtanam" will precede and follow

FRIEND OF THE SOVIET UNION:—Have arranged a private film show showing the 'Spring Song", a Soviet musical story today (Sunday) at 10 a.m at New Empire. Poet Harindranath will speak before the show Very few seats are available. Members and sympathisers who wish to see the film should immediately enquire at the Girgaum Office

GRANT MEDICAL COLLEGE:—The last date for the receipt of application for B Sc and Intermediate Science students for admission to the First Year Class at the Grant Medical College, Bombay, has been extended to June 1 owing to late publication of the results of the B Sc and Intermedite Science practical examinations.

MATRICULATION EXAM. RESULTS

The results of the last Matriculation examination will be declared at the University Office on Monday, June 5th, at 6 a.m.

MORE DESTITUTES LEAVE CITY

Two Municipal Rest Camps Closed Down

The number of destitutes at the Municipal rest centres is steadily declining, a large number of them being repatriated to their villages. The rest camps at the Lord Harris School and Immamwada were closed on Saturday evening. 34 inmates of the Imamwada centre have been transferred to the Nagpada Centre and 101 from the Lord Harris School have joined the Dongri camp. The total strength of destitutes at present is 1 326 Of these 896 are adult males, 188 are women and 242 children.

During the week ending Saturday 602 persons were repatriated to the mofussil villages In all 1952 destitutes have been repatriated from the city since the explosions

The work of demolition of dangerous buildings continued on Saturday.

On Friday the body of Rambhau Har, a Port Trust employee, was recovered from the Bombay dock area in a decomposed state.

The Governor of Bombay toured round the affected areas on Saturday morning

CORONER OPENS INQUEST ON EXPLOSION VICTIM

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Mass inquest of the victims of the disastrous Explosion and Fire, occurred on the 14th April was held at 12 noon at the Bombay City Coroner's Court to-day.

The Police Prosecutor Mr Gupte made an application to the Coroner that the inquest may be held 'in camera'. Thereupon the two prominent witnesses viz Mr. W W. Godwin, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Port) and Mr Norman Coombs, Chief of the Fire Brigade, Bombay, were asked by the Bombay City Coroner whether their evidence would be such as in their opinion would, not in any way benefit the public?

The Deputy Commissioner of Police replied that he desired to have his evidence recorded 'in camera' as the evidence would be such, that in his opinion should not be disclosed to the public. Mr. Norman Coombs, the Chief of the Fire Brigade also expressed similar opinion and desired that he might be examined 'in camera.'

The Reporters of the leading Newspapers of Bombay immediately asked the Coroner whether he was going to hold the inquest and examine all the witnesses 'in camera'.

The Coroner replied 'No. "I only take the evidence of the witnesses 'in camera' only of those who desire them to do so. As a matter of fact I myself wish to hold the inquest in the open court. But according to the Coroners Act, there is a provision to allow the inquest to be held 'in camera' if the witness so desires

Before commencing the inquest, the Coroner while advising the members of the Jury said that they should not be carried away by the reports of newspapers. 'They are like bazar news They should give their verdict solely and mainly on the merits of the evidence accorded by each witness

The Coroner further added that they had to record the verdict of 378 victims whose reports happened to be within his jurisdiction Several hundreds of bodies, of course were disposed of without his knowledge, since the said bodies were completely decomposed

The Coroner's Court, which was over-crowded with the Public, Policemen, and Police officers and Fire Brigade men dispersed when they learnt the inquest was going to be held 'in camera'

Inquest was adjourned to May 27.

Charkha Sangh And Relief To Victims Of Recent Explosion

Mr. Purshottam Kanji Hon Secretary A I S A Bombay Branch writes:—

Our attention has been drawn to a statement appearing in the Press that the Fort Office of the Charkha Sangh (96-98 Bohra Bazar Street) proposes to render help to the victims of the recent explosions.

A number of spinning clubs and institutions have come into existence durrng the last two years and they have been wrongly associating the name of Charkha Sangh with their activities

The Shivaji Park Charkha Sangh and the Fort Office of the Charka Sangh are typical instances of this nature.

We take this opportunity of intimating to the general public that the Charkha Sangh is in no way associated with these two institutions

The activities of the Charkha Sangh are at present restricted to runnrng the certified sale Bhandars in the city and a couple of spinning centres in the suburban area.

NEW DELHI, May 20 It is understood that Mr R. H. Parker, till lately, Manager, Bombay Telephones, has been appointed additional Controller General of Civil Supplies procurement) in the Industries and Civil Supplies Department.—A. P.

FINAL COTTON FORECAST

Marked Reversion At Expense Of Food Crops

NEW DELHI, May 20.

The final cotton forecast, just published, discloses a marked reversion in the past season to cotton, largely at the expense of food crops, says a press "communique".

The extent of the reversion to cotton is estimated at 1.195.000 acres, two-thirds of it being in areas exclusively or predominantly given up to the cultivation of short-staple varieties.

Short-staple cotton is not in heavy demand It is needed much less than food. In the national interest a substantial diversion of acreage from short-staple cotton to food crops is imperative. The Government of India consider that of the 10-3/4 million acres under short-staple cotton last season 3-1/4 million acres, or roughly 30 per cent, should in the forthcoming season be producing food crops

The principal alternative crops to short-staple cotton are Jowar and Bajra. To protect the interests of producers the Government of India have decided to announce their willingness to accept from the crop of 1944-45 all jowar and bajra of fair average quality offered for sale in the main assembling markets of the U.P., C.P. and Berar, Madras, the Punjab, Sind and Ajmer-Merwara at prices of Rs. 5/8 and Rs 6 a maund respectively. should prices fall. Prices for Bombay will be announced later. Current prices are generally higher and the All-India maxima are Rs. 7 and Rs. 7/8 respectively for these crops.—A P

DEPT. OF PATHOLOGY FOR HARKISONDAS NAROTAMDAS HOSPITAL

Sir P Thakurdas Opens It: Tribute To Devkaran Mulji Charity Trust

Before a large and distinguished gathering Sir Purshottamdas Thakurdas performed the opening ceremony of the new Pathology Department of the Sir Harkisondas Narottamdas Hospital, Charni Road on Saturday evening. The new Department is the outcome of a donation of two lakhs of rupees made by the trustees of the Devkaran Mulji Charity Trust to the Sir Harkisondas Narottamdas Hospital for the construction and maintenance of a pathology department and a free ward, both to be named after the late Seth Devkaran Mulji.

In declaring the new department open Sir Purshottamdas congratulated the trustees of the Devkaran Mulji Charity Trust for their splendid donation which he said was in keeping with the philanthropic spirit of the late Seth Devkaran Mulji

Welcoming the guests Sir Ishwardas Luxmidas pointed out that the Hospital owed its origin and progress to the philanthropy of the late Sir Harkisondas Narottamdas and the selfless work of the late Seth Tulsidas Tribhovandas which was carried on after his death with the same zeal by Seth Gordhandas Bhagvandas Narottamdas for the last thirteen years.

A historical resume of the Hospital read by Seth Gordhandas on the occasion showed that the hospital was started in 1925 with 40 beds To-day it could accommodate 280 beds of which 200 were free, 50 were paying and 30 were for maternity cases. The assets of the Hospital had increased from Rs 11.50 583 in the year 1925 to Rs. 36 lakhs in 1944.

A donation of one lakh by Seth Gordhandas Bhagvandas and further one lakh by some anoymous gentleman were declared during the function.

Seth Pranlal Devkaran Nanji, Seth Amritlal Kalidas and Sri Motichand Kapadia also apoke on the occasion.

CHARITY MATCHES AT PAREL

Interesting Programme For Today

It appears that the organisers of the Exhibition Football matches at Parel, the Indian Football League Committee, have spared no pains to make the Sunday's programme as interesting as possible.

To start with the Pipes Band of the City Police will play selections of music from 5 p.m. to entertain the spectators. Meanwhile a bevy of pretty young ladies will sell programmes at any price they can extract from the spectators. All that is given them will of course go to the Mayor's Citizens Emergency Relief Fund together with the entire collections from the gate, etc.

There are three prizes for the lucky programmes donated by Messrs. Gordhandas K Jhaveri and Co., the W. I. F A and St. Xavier's College, namely, a butter dish, a season ticket for the Cooperage ground and a season ticket for the St. Xavier's ground.

At 5-15 p.m. An Italian Naval XI, will play against the Tata Sports Club to be followed by the 'piece de resistance'—R A F vs. an Indian XI.

At 6-15 p.m. The teams will be introduced to the Mayor of Bombay, Mr. Nagindas T. Master.

Mrs. Tara Ali Baig will kick-off the second match

The Police Band will play also during the intervals.

CITY MARKETS

Bombay, May 20.

SHARES—The share market remained closed to-day as usual Indian Irons and Bengal Steels were unchanger at Rs. 30- and Rs. 27-12 respectively. 3-1/2 per cent Government Paper was quoting around Rs. 98-14.

GOLD AND SILVER.—Both the sections of the market ruled steadier on replacement buying but prices fluctuated within a narrow range. Gold was quoted at Rs 74-10 and Silver for nort delivery hovered around Rs 133-10. Silver Ready 999 fineness was placed at Rs 134-12. Subsequently Gold dropped by 2 As. to Rs. 74-8 and Silver to Rs. 133

COTTON:—The market after early quietness steadied up. Some of the professional operators are supporting the market at all lower levels I. C. C. July opened at Rs. 436-4 and after declining to Rs 435-8 improved to Rs. 437-8 The market faced some realising with the rate dropping to Rs. 435-8. Closing quotations:—

I. C. C May Rs. 419. I. C. C. July Rs. 435-8. I. C. C September Rs. 446-8.

FRIDAY'S HIGH AND LOW RATES. I. C. C. May highest 421, lowest 420-1/2, closing 421; I C C. July highest 437-1/2 lowest 433, closing 436-3/4; I. C. C September highest 447, lowest 443, closing 446

TENDERS ON 19-5-44: I. C. C. May 550 bales, Total to-date 24.950 bales.

COTTON PARITY: I. C. C. July below N. Y. July 383 cent pts at Ex. 331.

NEW YORK COTTON

New York, May 19.

Early advance on mill price-fixing against textile awards and the recent Spanish purchases encountered hedging and liquidation inspired by favourable war news and reaction of grains. The market closed steady.

NEW YORK COTTON.

New York May 19.

July 20.66, October 19.91, December 19.65, Middling Spot 21.62.

NEW ORLEANS COTTON.

New York, May 19.

July 20.82, October 19.92, December 19.67, Middling Sport 20.83

NEW YORK COTTON.

New York, May 19.

July 20.71, October 19.94, December 19.68.

INDIAN SHOCK EXCHANGE

Bombay, May 20.

Tata Ordinary 410, Tata Deferred 2,155, Indian Iron 36-2, Steel Corpn. of Bengal 27-12, Bombay Dyeing 1,915, Central India 433-12, Century 940, Gokak 333-2, Kohinoor 645, Simplex 357, Andhra Valley 1.850, Tata Hydro 203-2, Tata Power 1,872-8, Associated Cement 233, Belapur 243-12, Bombay Burma (Old) 392-8.

LONDON SILVER

London, May 19

Spot 23-1/2, Forward 23-1/2.

LONDON GOLD.

London, May 19.

London Gold fine per oz. £8-8-0.

LONDON WHEAT.

London, May 19.

Wheat Rozario (new crop) 32/3 May-June quoted, Wheat Australian bulk 37 May-June quoted, Wheat Australian bagged 40 May-June quoted.

LONDON EXCHANGES.

London May 19.

T. T. London on:—New York sellers 4.02-1/2, buyers 4.03-1/2. Madrid official 44.00. Montreal sellers 4.43. buyers 4.47, Zurich sellers 17.3, buyers 17.4, Stockholm sellers 16.83 buyers 16.95.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

London, May 19

Rupee Paper 3-1/2 p.c. £70-1/2, Consols 2-1/2 p.c. £79-5/16, Conversion Loan 3-1/2 p.c 1961 £104-5/8 War Loan 3-1/2 p.c £103-3/16. Funding Loan 4 p.c. 1960-90 £112-7/8, Victory Bonds 4 p.c. £112-1/4. Chartered Bank of I. A. and China £9-3/4. Hongkong and Shanghai Bank (London rec.) £74-1/4, National Bank of India £38-1/2.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

COTTON (July)

New York, May 20.

Previous Closing	20.66
Today's Opening	20.68
Difference	+02
Today's Closing	20.68
Difference	+02

CALCUTTA STOCK EXCHANGE

CALCUTTA May 20

The market continued firm and active and a fair business was put through round all sections Government securities kept steady.

Police Clash With Hurs

SHAHDADPUR, May 20.—A gang of Hurs lurking about in the vicinity of Shahdadpur is reported to have been routed by the rifle police One Hur was wounded and captured Besides one gun and 50 cartridges were seized. The wounded Hur was removed to Nawabshah hospital where he died.

Another Hur is reported to have been arrested by the police on Pithoro side.—United Press

OUR TABULATED ADLETS

2 ANNAS PER WORD
MINIMUM RS. 1|8|-
To be paid in advance.

MATRIMONIAL

The Friends Service League, Post Box No. 68, Karachi, will help you to make a match. Write for literature to-day. 4861B

SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted a young, energetic person with sound health to act as a Forest-in-charge in Bihar, having experience in working in big forest under lease and capable of working independently. Apply to Chotanagpur Industries, 137 Canning Street, Calcutta stating minimum salary expected with copies of testimonials. 4897

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

Mathar Inba Rahasiyangal in Tamil—Rs. 2-4 V. P. P. Sethuramalingam—Akbarabad—Madras. 4851

MEDICAL ADLETS

M. D. H. Sc. by Correspondence:—Doctor N. H. Chhatbar, Asia Mission, P. O. Mahuva (Kathiawar, India.) 4927

DIAMOND & JEWELLERY

Diamond Jewellery (Secondhand) purchased at better price. Chunilal & Co., 17, Dhunjee Street, Near Diamond Merchants' Association. Mumbadevi. Time 4 to 7 (Sunday closed). 4811

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Landscape Paintings of India's beauty spots by famous artist. 15"x10" Rs. 2 C. A. Sebastian T., B. Road. Ernakulam. 4881

Silks of different shades and designs are now available For Sale. S. K. Kaul, General Manager, The Rajputana Silk and Woollen Mills, Jaipur, (Raj). 4903

PUBLIC NOTICES.

NOTICE

WANTED for a Government of India Office at New Delhi, qualified

LADY STENOGRAPHERS—
Pay Rs. 125-5-180-10-300.

STENO-TYPISTS—Ladies or gents.

Pay Rs. 60-3-105-4-125—E. B.—4-145-5-170 plus a special pay of Rs. 20 p.m.

In addition dearness allowance of Rs. 14 p.m. Apply stating educational qualifications, experience, if any, correct and tested speed in shorthand and typewriting, age, etc. Selected candidates will have to make their own arrangements for residential accommodation and should be prepared to appear for interview, if necessary, at their own expense. Apply Box No. 8892, "Bombay Chronicle".

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NEWEST OFFERING
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BEAUTIFUL DANCES
THRILLING ROMANCE

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AMIRBAI, SHAKIR, BABY TARA

Direction: SHANTIKUMAR

AT

CAPITOL

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ADVANCE BOOKING DAILY BETWEEN 10-12 & 3-5

AN EVERGREEN RELEASE

PUBLIC NOTICES.

CLEARANCE SALE

HANDMADE Cotton Fabrics of excellent quality available for sale at reduced rates at the Bihar Cottage Industries Gulzarbagh, Patna. All prices ex-godown. All orders small or large will be received.

(1)	2400 pieces of white Turkish Towel 54" x 27" with blue side borders ..	@	Rs. 2 5 0	each.
(2)	200,000 yards of Dosuti, heavy; unbleached 36" wide	@	0 13 0	per yard.
(3)	3,300 yards of Markin, Light, unbleached, 36" wide ..	@	0 8 9	per yard.
(4)	1,360 pieces of Dhoti, with border of 20s x 30s counts, 4 yards x 44" unbleached ..	@	2 8 0	each.
(5)	360 pieces of Saries, unbleached, with coloured border, 5 yards x 44" ..	@	3 6 0	each.
(6)	6,500 yards of mockleno mosquito netting, 36" wide, bleached ..	@	0 9 0	per yard.
(7)	6,11,200 yards cotton tape, white, 1" wide in rolls of 25 and 100 yards ..	@	3 0 0	per 100 yards.
(8)	1,200 yards of check Motia shirting, 29"|30" wide ..	@	0 10 0	per yard.
(9)	9,700 yards of sponge cloth for cleaning purposes, 30" wide in rolls of 10 yards ..	@	0 8 9	per yard.

Please apply at once to Textile Expert to Government of Bihar, Secretariat, Patna. (8893)

CLEARANCE SALE

KHADI of excellent quality made out of handspun yarn of the All India Spinners' Association, Bihar Branch, Madhubani, All prices ex-godown. All orders small or large will be received. Goods can be inspected and purchased at the Bihar Cottage Industries, Gulzarbagh, Patna:—

(1)	1838 pieces 1414 Dhoti, 4 yds x44" ..	@	Rs. 3 13 0	each
(2)	3498 pieces 1616 Dhoti, 4 yards x 44" ..	@	3 14 0	„
(3)	934 pieces 1818 Dhoti 4 yards x 44" ..	@	4 4 0	„
(4)	2732 pieces 2020 Dhoti, 4 yds. x 44" ..	@	4 2 0	„
(5)	620 pieces 40|S dhoti, 4 yards x 44" ..	@	6 0 0	„
(6)	240 pieces 2525 dhoti, 4 yds x 44" ..	@	4 12 0	„
(7)	214 pieces 3030 dhoti, 4 yds. x 44" ..	@	5 1 0	„
(8)	189 pieces 2525 plain Sari with coloured border, 5 yards x 44" ..	@	6 2 0	„
(9)	309 pieces 3030 Fancy border Sari 5 yards x 44" ..	@	7 6 0	„
(10)	244 pieces 2525 printed Sari 5 yards x 44" ..	@	9 8 0	„
(11)	1714 yards of 88 coloured shirting 32" wide ..	@	0 12 0	per yard.
(12)	6466 yards 1414 striped shirting 32" wide ..	@	0 15 0	„
(13)	966 yds. 1616 striped shirting 32" wide ..	@	0 14 6	„
(14)	744 yds. 2020 striped shirting 32" wide ..	@	0 14 0	„
(15)	1532 yds. of shirting No. 4, 32" Wide ..	@	1 0 3	„
(16)	2540 yds. of 1414 check shirting ..	@	1 2 0	„
(17	9116 yds. of 1212 printed chintz in 2 colours ..	@	0 14 0	„
(18)	12295 yds. of 1212 printed chintz in 3 colours ..	@	0 15 0	„
(19)	1406 yds. of 1212 printed chintz in 4 colours ..	@	1 0 0	„
(20)	19148 yds. of 1010 dyed Khady ..	@	0 12 6	„
(21)	4329 yds. of 1010 white Khady ..	@	0 10 6	„
(22)	4821 pieces of towels—36" x 25" ..	@	0 11 0	per piece.
(23)	400 pieces of bedsheets No 88 2½ yds. x 57" .	@	2 8 0	„
(24)	1440 yds. of dosuti—32" wide	@	1 0 0	per yard.
(25)	900 yds. of 4040 Kokati cloth 30" Wide ..	@	1 8 3	„

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POPULAR OVERNIGHT!

RANJIT'S
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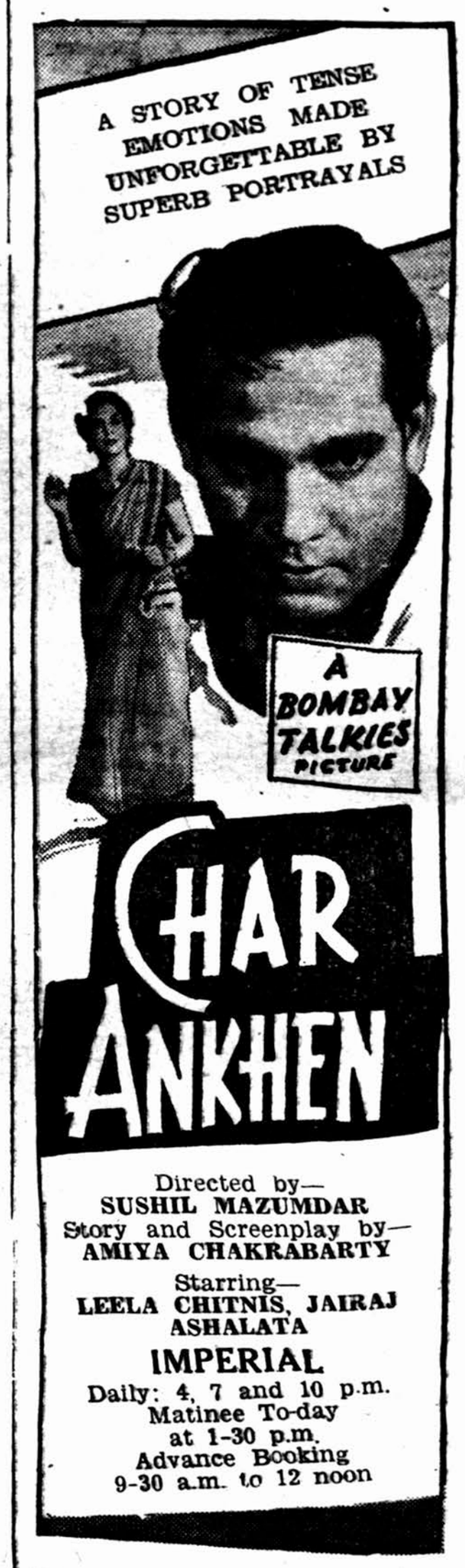
Advance Booking: 9-30 to 12-30 & 3 to 6-30.

INEUNU WARNS FIFTH COLUMNISTS IN TURKEY

ANKARA, May 19.

Ankara Radio tonight quoted a speech by the President of Turkey Izmet Ineunu, in which he condemned fifth columnists in Turkey.

The President said: "We will use every means to prevent agitators from gaining possession of the destinies of Turkey. If these people address themselves to our youth and try to lead our good Turkish people astray in the belief that we do not seek quarrel and that we will not quarrel they are indeed mistaken. You may be certain we are taking resolute action against these trouble-makers."—Reuter.



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-KA-SAUDAGAR

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A Minerva Film Exchange Release
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Daily: 4, 7, 10 and Sat. Sun., Matinee 1 p.m.

"NAI DUNIYA"

'ROYAL'-JEWEL NO. 19

Co-starring:
SHOBHANA, JAYRAJ, MAZHAR.
WASTI, AZURIE
and directed by KARDAR

Poor Sportsmen Fleeced By Government

By J. C. MAITRA

In these hard days when people are feeling the pinch of high prices at every stage the Government of Bombay has thought fit to tax the poor sportsmen of the province to the fleecing point Up to a few months ago there was no Entertainment Tax on admission tickets to any place of entertainment up to a charge of four annas. This was as it should be But I suppose somebody in the Secretariat had a brain wave while thinking of the ways and methods to stop the economic inflation in the country. The working class people were earning too much money these days, somebody had said. So they must be relieved of some of it by way of taxation. And taxing their recreation was one of the easiest methods of touching their pockets!

ONE ANNA TAX ON ONE ANNA!

The long and short of it is this that poor sports-goers have to pay an Entertainment Duty of one anna on admission charges of even one and two annas! It may sound ridiculous that these are such low gate charges as one and two annas for any show. But it is a fact. Places of recreation like the St. Xavier's College Gymkhana ground, Parel, where the working class people form the overwhelming majority of spectators, have to keep the gate charges so low Because of this they could enjoy some healthy sport after a hard day's work more frequently than occasionally. Now this iniquitous imposition makes it very difficult for them to witness good matches as frequently as they would like to.

ADVERSE EFFECTS

The result is that these people are compelled to stay away from such healthy places of recreation more often than they used to, as they cannot afford to spend hundred or fifty per cent more. The marked falling off in the daily attendances would clearly prove this fact. Does it do any good to the working class people?

Then there is another side of the question. Organisations like the Indian Football League who conduct various tournaments in the industrial areas and whose income is not at all large ordinarily, now find their gate-receipts reduced by one-half or so. How are they to meet their ever increasing expenses for managing the tournaments? Would it do any good to sport if they curtail their activities?

TAXATION OF SPORT

I have always been a strong opponent of taxation of sport. While the Congress Ministry was in power, I had a discussion with Mr. B. G. Kher then our Premier, and Mr. Morarji Desai, Revenue Minister, on this subject. I had impressed upon them the necessity of reserving all the revenues derived from sport for the development of sport particularly in industrial areas. They had assured me that they would spend much more than that annually on the physical development and recreation of the people. Unfortunately they went out of office and their desire remained unfulfilled. Let us hope the day is not far distant when a popular ministry will function again and we shall see the realisation of our hopes and ambitions.

SPARE THE POOR!

But the present question stands on a different footing altogether. It is not the question of taxing those who can afford to pay. It affects only those who cannot afford. And this must be stopped. The Government, if it so chooses, may lower the taxable figure to four annas. But it must keep its hands off from the lower charges. Let the poor people enjoy healthy sport as often as they can afford and keep away from mischief. The W.I.F.A and the B.P.H.A. should raise their voice in the interests of the poorer classes of their supporters, if not for their own sake, and see that the Government withdraws its hands from the coffers of these hand-hit people as early as possible.

HARWOOD LEAGUE STARTS

The football season is now in full swing both at the Cooperage and at Parel. Unlike previous years, the W.I.F.A., has started the First Division of the Harwood League this season even before the Nadkarni Cup is over. Of course, the latter competition should have seen its end before the commencement of the League, had not the semi-finals refused to arrive at a decision even after several replays. The reason for the early start of the League is to prevent players changing their clubs frequently.

A dozen teams are participating in this Division. The South Kanara Association, who were originally included in the List were thrown out after one match. Their show was very poor indeed. This Association has a number of clubs under its wings. But their players prefer to play for their office of other teams. With the result South Kanara had to make a rather ignominious exit from the League after several years of hard struggle for existence. Want of adequate financial support is I believe, the main reason for their downfall South Kanarites of Bombay, ought to do something about it, so that this sporting body may live.

SOUTH INDIANS COMBINE

Their place has been taken up by a new club called the South Indians. Most of the leading players from the South including Murthy, Bhimrao, Balan, Karunakar, Manuel, Rathnam, Alexander, Jayaram and Kadirvelu have joined it. There is not the least doubt that the South Indians will make a formidable combination and will take a lot of beating. I should not be at all surprised if they make a bold bid for the League Championship this season. They have already won their first two engagements at the expense of the Muslims and the City Police.

R. A. F.'S PROMISE

The team which has the strongest backing of the Europeans is the Royal Air Force. With a batch of professional players from Britain in their ranks they have build up a fine combination. Last season they completed their career by annexing the Blue Riband of Western India, the Rovers Cup. This year they are expected to sweep the board. The progress of the season will show how far they will fulfill popular expectations. Their runaway victory against the weakened B.E.S.T by 9-1 and the convincing success against the Combined Ops. a new military side, by 3-0, have already raised their in the scale.

CHAMPIONS WEAKENED

I have not, however, much hope of the W.I.A.A., the League Champions of the last two seasons retaining their title. Their team, has been considerably weakened by the transfer of Kadirvelu, Manuel, Rathnam, Murthy and Bhimrao to the South Indians. Their deep defence needs particularly to be strengthened Unless Jehangir Patell can do something in this direction, their career cannot be very bright this season.

Of the other old teams, the Base Sub Area now called the Embarkation Headquarters, appear to be a fairly strong combination and is likely to have some say in the final allocation of the leading positions in the Table. With more practice, the City Police also may come into limelight later on.

The G. I. P. Railway and the Tata Sports Club who have been promoted from the Second Division this season have given promise of big things. When they settle down to their new surroundings, I expect them to shine well.

At the Cooperage a Services League is also on the card. Teams from the Royal Air Force Army and Navy are participating in it.

Soviet Women At War

(Continued from Page 3)

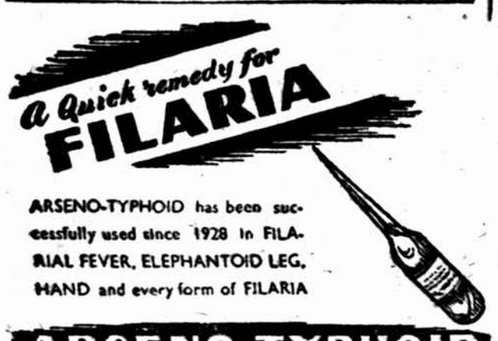
soon killed three Germans, and put her last bullet through her own head rather than fall into Fascist hands.

Sisters Of Mercy

But it is as sisters of mercy on the battlefield that Soviet women are finding particularly wide scope for proving their mettle and valiancy in the face of ever-present danger. As stretcher bearers and first-aid nurses, they follow close on the heels of the soldiers, be the battle ever so fierce, or the weather 90 degrees of heat or 50 degrees of cold. Many are the tens of thousands of wounded who owe their lives and recovery to the untiring, selfless and timely work of these sisters of mercy.

Under a heavy barrage of German fire, nurse Mikheyevna went out into 40 degrees of cold and rendered first aid to two wounded Red Army soldiers. But for this nurse's heroism, their lives would have been doomed by cold and loss of blood. For this act of bravery and disregard of personal safety, nurse Mikheyevna was awarded the "Order of the Red Star." During the most bloody moments of the battle of Schlisselburg, nurse Nina Ermalayevna, regardless of all danger, rendered first aid to, and helped with the stretcher bearing of, 500 wounded Red Army soldiers, most of whom to-day can thank her that they are alive. Army nurse Vera Lebedeva, during eight heavy German attacks, carried a total of 100 wounded soldiers from the field of battle, together with their arms. On one occasion a group of Germans attacked a party of wounded soldiers that she had carried into a corpse. She killed four of the Fascists with deadly tommy-gun fire and the others fled.

A foreign diplomat asked me to-day, "Where did such women come from?" All that I could say was that, seemingly, they have been here all the time, in the same way that, most likely, similar Amazons may be found in India, Australia, England and America if a foreign Fascist aggressor should invade and attempt to conquer and enslave their homeland.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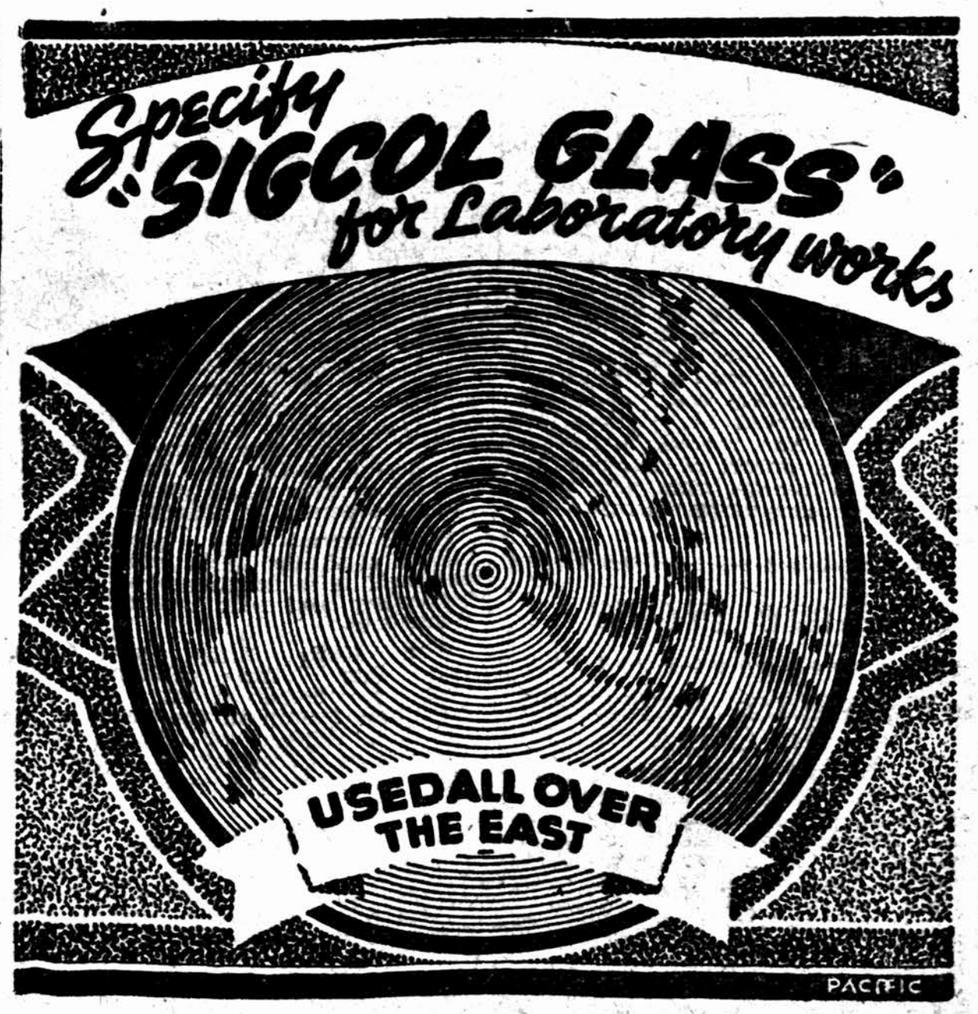

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Allies Break Into 'Hitler Line'

Bangalore Plunged In Darkness

Power House Struck By Lightning: Industries At Standstill

BANGALORE, May 20.

Bangalore was plunged in darkness for some hours last night consequent on, it is authoritatively learnt, the main electric Power House at Sivasamudram (about 100 miles from Bangalore), which supplies electric energy for the major part of the State, being struck by lightning last evening resulting in the outbreak of a fire. Cinema houses and industrial establishments all over the State are still denied electric supply.

The Dewan of Mysore, Mr. Madhavarao, the Inspector-General of Police and the Chief Electrical Engineer in Mysore have proceeded to the scene.

It is not yet known how long the shut down will last, the probable damage sustained and whether the fire had been brought under control. Detailed official information is awaited.—A. P.

Public Health Ordinance

NEW DELHI, May 20.

Special provisions with regard to public health are made in an ordinance issued to-day. It empowers the appropriate Government to order any local authority to take measures which in that Government's opinion are necessary for any purpose of the ordinance. If a local authority fails to take such measures within the specified period, the appropriate Government may authorise any person to take the necessary measures or complete them. The appropriate Government may also appoint additional medical or public health establishment, assume the superintendance of all or any medical or public health services of any local authority, authorise any person to take over from any local authority the administration of public health services or supersede any local authority.—A. P.

K. R. Kama Lodge Expresses Sympathy With Explosion Victims

At a monthly meeting of the K. R. Kama Lodge No. 1366 S.C. Mr. R. W. Master moved two resolutions on the city explosion which were unanimously passed.

One of the resolution records with sorrow the deaths of numerous persons and the other expresses heartfelt sympathies to the victims.

Frozen Cloth Stocks

BOMBAY, Saturday.

A press note issued by the Textile Commissioner states:—

It will be recalled that the Textile Commissioner recently froze the stocks of a number of wholesale dealers in the City of Bombay. He has now given instructions for the disposal of a large proportion of those stocks and has taken the opportunity to make supplies to local retailers. The quantities supplied are appreciable and so far amount in value to over Rs. 3 lakhs. The process is continuing and the public of Bombay will continue to benefit from this arrangement for compulsory distribution.—A. P.

Late News

ROOSEVELT'S MESSENGER TO CHINA

WASHINGTON, May 20.

President Roosevelt announced today that Vice-President Henry Wallace has left for China to gather information on a war area of the "utmost importance to our future peace and prosperity."

President Roosevelt said he had asked Vice-President Wallace "to serve as a messenger for me in China."

Mr. Wallace is accompanied by Mr. John Carter Vincent of the State Department's Division of Chinese Affairs, Mr. Owen Lattimore of the United States Office of War Information and John Hazard, Chief Liaison Officer of the Foreign Economic Administration.

President Roosevelt declared: "Eastern Asia will play a very important part in the future history of the world. For the time being nothing more can be said of certain aspects of the Vice-President's trip. Suffice it to say he will be visiting a dozen places which I have long wanted to see. He left today and will report to me upon his return which is expected about the middle of July."—Reuter.

GERMANS BEING PUSHED BACK IN ITALY

Americans Occupy Gaeta While French And Poles Make Fresh Gains

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ITALY: May 20.

The Adolf Hitler Line has been breached, it was officially stated here to-day.

It was also announced that the Germans have transferred the main "Hitler Line" to new defence points closer to Rome.

GAETA OCCUPIED

American troops have occupied Gaeta.

The Radio France from Algiers said: "American troops are now flooding into the Gulf of Gaeta after occupying Gaeta.

FRENCH GAINS

"French troops have occupied Mount Mandrone, north of Santa Oliva. Six miles north of Itri, which has been occupied, a 3,000 feet mountain has also been seized by the French".

GERMANS ADMIT ALLIED SUCCESSES

BERLIN, May 20: Several heights north of Itri, and the township of Campodimele fell into enemy hands. Campodimele is a village by the side of the Hitler Line supply road in Italy about half way between Itri and Pico. It brings the Allies to their most westerly point of penetration.

Nazis Being Pushed Back

Reuter's special correspondent at Allied Advance Head Quarters in Italy says:

It was officially stated here to-day that the Adolf Hitler line has been breached. The Germans are now being forced back to a line between Pico and Terracina. With the piercing of the Hitler Line, the plight of Germans is steadily worsening. Marshal Kesselring no longer has what General Montgomery constantly referred to as "a firm base" on which to retire.

The staff office declared when it was apparent that the Hitler Line was overrun: "The German has been outmanouevred. In 24 hours fighting, he has been bounced off the line he has spent months preparing". Marshal Kesselring, either through lack of reserves or because he did not move them quickly enough, failed to get them into the Hitler Line into which he could have withdrawn his retreating forces. Consequently the Allied advance rolled through and disorganised the retreating German forces much faster than had been anticipated.

FIGHTING FOR HITLER LINE.

The Eighth Army is now engaged in heavy fighting for the Hitler Line. Pupurola which is two miles north of Pignataro was captured on Thursday morning, the Germans suffering heavy casualties.

Pushing beyond Aquino village, British forces are firing on the Germans from a point east of Aquino where they have taken the German infantry by surprise. Mopping up along the valley to the south, the British have taken many prisoners in isolated parties in the heavily wooded country where observation and tank movement is difficult.

Polish troops have captured the village of Santa Lucia which is two and half miles north-west of Cassino Monastery and sent patrols into Piedmonte.

The Fifth Army have broken into the Hitler Line over a broad front in rugged mountain terrain to the south of the captured village of Santa Oliva. They have occupied a number of high points to the west of the village.

ITRI OCCUPIED

American troops pushing through Formia along the Appian Way have captured Itri, thereby severing the lateral road linking the German coastal forces with those in Liri Valley. The high ground west of the Itri-Formia Road is already in Allied hands.

American troops are also occupying Gaeta. French troops captured vast stores intact at San Andria, Ausonia and Esperia, including forty artillery pieces with great quantities of ammunition and food. British tanks and armoured cars have smashed through light resistance to the outskirts of Aquino Aerodrome in Liri Valley. German parachute troops trying to defend the aerodrome were badly shot up and dispersed. Prisoners captured since the start of the offensive now total more than 5,500.

CAMOUFLAGED POINTS

More than 270 camouflaged strong points have been counted on Hitler Line between Piedmonte and Pontecorvo some of which the Germans are fighting desperately to hold, although the southern end of the Line has already been broken and the Germans are falling back to their reserve line from Pico to Teracina. Most of the strong points are armed with machine-guns, although some have covered tank turrets, containing 75 and 88 millimetre guns. The Germans have evidently transferred the name "Hitler Line" to another Line further north.

A staff officer declared: "This is an easy way of avoiding serious loss of prestige. It can obviously be used again and again until the Hitler Line coincides with Unter Den Linden."—Reuter.

WASHINGTON, May 19.

President Roosevelt has decided to call a World Monetary Conference and a definite date has been fixed. Fiscal experts from more than thirty of the United and Associated Nations are expected to attend.—Reuter.

AIR ATTACKS ON FRENCH COAST

Cologne Bombed: Mines Laid In Enemy Waters

LONDON, May 20: Airchief Marshal Sir Arthur Harris last night sent many hundreds of British bombers to France in a series of attacks on railway centres and military objectives on the coast. Thus, the lull of over one week broken by yesterday's United States' attacks on Berlin and Brunswick may be said to have ended.

This morning heavy bombers were seen crossing the English coast in great strength flying out towards Calais and Dunkirk. According to the German news agency D.N.B. 30 British aircraft attacked the German outpost of Roces on the island of Ushant at the southern end of the Channel last night

To-day's air ministry "communique" said "last night, aircraft of bomber-command were over France in great strength to attack railway centres at Boulogne, Orleans, Lemans and Tours. The targets were clearly identified and the bombing was well concentrated. Military objectives on the coast of France were also bombed. "Mosquitos" attacked Cologne and mines were laid in enemy waters.

Seven of our aircraft are missing".—Reuter.

Paris Area Raided

United States four engined Liberator and Fortress bombers in daylight today attacked three German aerodromes and one railway yard in France. They were Atorlay and Villacoublay near Paris and Champagne near Rheims, while rail yards were at Rheims.

The Paris radio reported that United States planes had raided Paris area this morning. Photographs taken during Friday's United States attack indicate damage to Berlin's industrial areas and railways and to "Messerschmitt" components factory and pipe and boiler factory near Brunswick.—Reuter.

SURAT, May 19: It is learnt that the authorities have appointed a committee of management to carry on the functions of the superseded Surat Municipality. The Committee will consist of 15 members with Rao Bahadur M. Natwerlal Zaveri as President.—A. P.

German Plight In Crimea Worse Than Dunkirk

Convoy Leaves Thousands Behind Under Heavy Soviet Fire

LONDON, May 19.

The last hours at Cape Kersonese of the German resistance in the Crimea were immeasurably worse than Dunkirk, said Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Franz the Chief of Staff of the German Infantry Division who was captured there by the Russians writes Reuter's Special Correspondent who has returned to Moscow from visit to the Crimea.

Nearly 50,000 German and Rumanian troops were crowded on this—only about half a square mile in extent—waiting for ships which came but could not get near land. A German convoy of about 100 ships arrived off the Cape on the night of May 11 but heavy fire from hundreds of Soviet guns and dozens of bombers forced it to steam away empty, leaving the remnants of the 17th German army to their fate.

To prevent him from committing suicide a soldier was specially appointed to watch Lieutenant-General Gruener, the German Commander-in-Chief at the Cape, throughout the last 24 hours.

MOSCOW, May 19: To-night's Soviet communique said: "During May 19, there were no material changes on the fronts."

"During yesterday our troops on all sectors destroyed or disabled 14 enemy tanks and 43 enemy planes were shot down by anti-aircraft fire or in combat."

RUSSIANS REPULSE ENEMY ATTACKS

Further attacks by the Germans south-west of Stanislavov are reported in a supplement to the Soviet Communique.

"The Germans strove to capture at all costs a favourable line but they *were checked by determined resistance. Soviet troops repulsed all ene*my attacks. In the course of the fighting 300 Germans were killed."

Other attacks were repulsed north-west of Tiraspol. The Finnish Port of Kotka was bombed on Thursday.—Reuter.

Another Convoy To Russia

LONDON, May 19: British Warships and Naval Aircraft beating off all attacks and sinking at least two U-Boats have safely escorted another convoy to Russia without loss. This is announced in an Admiralty communique which says that the convoy carried "valuable equipment and stores" all of which were safely delivered.

The operation was carried out under the command of Vice-Admiral I. G. Glennie flying his flag in the new "secret" cruiser 'black prince'.

The destroyer 'Mahratta' whose loss has already been announced was torpedoed and sunk during the operation.—Reuter.

NAZIS OCCUPY CARPATHIAN ZONE OF SLOVAKIA

ZURICH, May 20: It is believed here that German forces will to-day occupy the entire Carpathian zone of Slovakia. All reports reaching here confirm that the main reason for the last visit of the President of Slovakia, Dr. Josef Tiso, and other Ministers to Hitler's headquarters was the impending military occupation of Slovakia, says the "Tribune de Geneve". It states: "The first steps have already been taken: A portion of the German troops in Hungary have crossed the Slovakian frontier."—Reuter.

Tito's Military Mission To London Visits "Reuters"

LONDON, May 20.

The head of Marshal Tito's Military Mission to London, General Vladimir Velebit to-day visited Reuters Fleet Street building from which the communique from Tito's Headquarters is flashed daily throughout the whole world. He and the other member of *the mission Major Dolfe Vogelnik* were guests of Reuters at a luncheon.

Recent Fiction

By HILLA C. VAKEEL

Guest of the Baron and Other Stories. By C. R. Mandy, (Thacker and Co., Ltd., 1/8/0.)

The evolution of the short story from the stage when it was merely a condensation of a novel to the present when it embodies the skilful exploitation of an incident or character has sharply defined the difference between the inspired and indifferent craftsmen plying this art. Having become a highly specialised miniature of a miniature it needs for successful execution a high degree of sensibility, a fine sense of literary values, imaginative insight and a nicely balanced judgment on the part of the writer —qualities which eliminate the passably competent professional or mildly talented amateur.

The author of the present collection of short stories displays in addition an exquisite urbanity and a nicely fastidious sense of words so rare in English writing published in India at the present time. The characters move in an atmosphere of white cammelias, sophistication and epigrams. In "The Orangeman and the Oracle" a story of Oscar Wilde and Ned Carson the conversation has an authentic Wildeian ring: "I disapprove of trying to keep healthy; it's a debilitating pastime." "My flower woman loves me. She has a certain monstrous beauty like the hind quarters of an elephant."... "Gentlemen, there is a plane tree beneath my window. It is sooty and aged but it forms a tapestry of leaves and flaunts a certain ravaged beauty. It pleases me. There is mental pabulum in such a sight. When I gaze at it I feel like Gautama on a lotus of untouchable calm..."

"The Convert" is a startlingly three-dimensional portrait of a rake. "The Patriot" and "The Barque" have an eerie macabre ring. "Port for the Old Gentleman" has a Somerset Maugham flavour, while "Metamorphosis" the story of a hen who from being a wallflower literally becomes (by means of a surgical operation) Cock of the Walk bears testimony to Mr. Mandy's very considerable sense of humour. The collection includes "The Wild Goose" a one-act play which deals with a few British prisoners in a Japanese camp somewhere in Burma and is incidently suitable for broadcasting.

Except for a somewhat mechanical recurrence of unexpected endings and a straining after brevity this is a very admirable collection of short stories which can be recommended to intelligent and discerning readers. For the harassed reviewer who is compelled to read the slipshod undistinguished, agonisingly mediocre looks poured out in recent years by local publishing houses Mr. Mandy's suave and mellowed writing means a holiday indeed.

Spellbound. By S. Allen Kennedy. (Thacker and Co., Ltd., Bombay, Rs. 6/14/0.)

This adventure story written in a genre which is becoming increasingly unfamiliar since writers started delving into the subconscious concerns itself with incidents in the life of Arthur Denniston Claire, a young Englishman in the Indian Civil Service whose mother desiring a child in the early days of her marriage makes offerings in a Hindu temple devoted to Kali the goddess of Destruction. "Mother Kali demands of thee thy first-born male child as her sacrifice. See that thou fulfil her injunction." is the terrifying order conveyed to her by the temple priest. A son is born to Mrs. Claire who lives under the shadow of this injunction to her dying day. Just before the end she relates the incident to her son who considers he is not bound to fulfil a vow made by his parents. How the promise affects Claire's life and that of his son as well as those around him and how a young Hindu in similar circumstances sacrifices himself to the goddess is described in a series of thrilling incidents.

Mr. Kennedy is at his best however in depicting the life of the English I.C.S. official on tour in the districts, and his pictures of tennis parties, moonlight picnics, fancy dress balls and of suburban England setting up Suburbia in the plains and jungles of Hindustan are extremely well done. The writing is competent and the whole makes an agreeable book for whiling away the tedium of a railway journey.

Your Dog in India. By Pat Sharpe. (Thacker and Co. Ltd., Bombay, Rs. 4/12/0.)

"The more I see men, the more I love dogs", is an opinion many of us share with the famous French actress who first expressed it. There is no doubt but that the human race suffers by comparison with many of its domestic pets and although Homo Sapiens has produced idealists through the ages it has also turned out Quislings, Fifth Columnists, double-crossers, liars and cheats on a mass production basis. Dogs on the other hand scorn disloyalty, will not bite the hand that feeds them and have never been known, so far as I am aware to form themselves into deputations and venture abroad to lie for their country. Dog lovers are consequently on the increase with the happy result that most dogs no longer lead "a dog's life". They are fed, clothed and looked after and the mechanism of this process has given rise to a great deal of literature on the subject.

In "Your Dog in India" Pat Sharpe discusses the subject in detail with special reference to the problems and diseases peculiar to tropical countries. Canine diet, diseases, parasites, first aid in accidents, training the puppy, choosing a dog, breeding and recognised breeds are dealt with in turn and several popular fallacies corrected. It affords a fund of information for dog-owners and lovers and is a readable and well-written book.

TWO PADMA PUBLICATIONS

INVITATION TO IMMORTALITY—A One-Act play by K. Ahmad Abbas.

BLOOD OF STONES—by Harindranath Chattopadhyaya, both published by Padma Publications.

India has an unenviable tradition of plays printed and read and not acted. Very often plays are meant to be read and more often they do not lend themselves to acting.

Invitation to immortality, however, is a play which has been successfully acted and has now been printed. It has already passed the rigorous test of a stage production. It is a fanatasy simple in its conception. A scientist discovers the elixir of life. A butterfly, an Imperialist, a priest and a dictator all want it. But the scientist refuses them because they are not likely to use it for the service of mankind. He offers it to a worker, who, however refuses it!

This simple theme has been worked out on a purposeful pattern with skill and irony by the author.

Invitation to Immortality is, of course, propaganda and so is Blood of Stones. Nobody is squeamish about art forms being used for propaganda, but when the art standards fall, propaganda becomes weak.

Harindranath has already established his reputation as a poet. But one must confess that he misses the power and sweep of verse, which was in evidence, for instance, in the poem 'Towards Triumph' which he wrote during the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1930.

It would seem that there is a definite tendency among Indian publishers to kill good authors by overpricing their books. Although, undoubtedly well-printed and got up, these two books are instances in point. Invitation to Immortality in 29 pages of print including seven full page sketches. It is priced at Rs. 2. Blood of Stones contains just three pieces, which by liberal spacing is spread over 20 pages. It is priced at Rs. 1-4

BOOKS AND THEIR AUTHORS

SYMPOSIUM ON PAKISTAN

NAI ZINDAGI, Allahabad, Special Number, 208 pages, Price: Re. 1-8.

"Nai Zindagi", the well-known Urdu magazine published from Allahabad, has brought out an Annual Number, the special feature of which is a symposium on Pakistan and the present deadlock by representatives of different parties. Among the writers are Mr. Rajagopalachariar, S. A. Brelvi (Congress), Dr. Abdul Hamid Qazi (Muslim League), Mr. Arthur Moore (European Group), Mr. Sajjad Zahir (Communist), Dr. Syed Abdul Latif, Swami Shahanand and Maulana Tufail Ahmed. Thus the journal has rendered a distinct service by bringing together these diverse opinions in one volume, so that a reasonable exchange of ideas may lead to the achievement unity.

Other contributions cover a wide range of cultural and literary subjects.

PUSHTI SUDHA, by Mohanlal Vithaldas Gandhi, B.A., LL.B. printed at the Nav Prabhat Printing Press, Ahmedabad Price Re. 1-5-0.

Vallabcharya's Shodhush Granth is a well known book, which sets out the elements of the Vallabh creed in a technical but popular way. These elements are presented here in the form of a Dialogue. Mr. Gandhi is thoroughly at hand in this rather difficult subject, but he has managed to expand it in such a way, by means of questions and answers that a beginner finds no difficulty in understanding the root principles of the philosophy, he is intended to learn on perusal of the book.

K.

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

Children of the Poona Balkan-ji-Bari felt honoured and very happy to have paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi at "Parnakuti" on the eve of his leaving for Bombay. They offered to him a few flowers which were accepted by Mahatmaji with his usual smile.

They arranged recently a concert, organised by children themselves, under the leadership of Shama, a "tiny tot" of the Poona Balkan-ji-Bari. It was a great success considering that children did everything themselves, and none of those who took part was over eleven years old.

Sister Tehmi Press made the tickets on bits of cardboard, and then took a prominent part in selling them and collecting money. Shama made some silver stars and fairy wands from cigarette tinsel paper. Children brought from their homes a quantity of sugar which they turned into lemon squash, and sold one anna a glass to the audience during the interval. Other friends who are not members of the Bari helped too; without their assistance the concert would not have been so successful.

* * *

It was a great experience for children to feel that they were doing some constructive work for their own Association, Balkan-ji-Bari. Experience also in what can be achieved by unity of purpose and co-operation. Thus they collected Rupees Twenty, which Shama has kindly forwarded to Dada to utilise the same as he thinks best. Children who took part in the concert are: Tehmi N. Press, Priya and Devi Dass Gupta and Shama and Ushram Sant Singh.

"ON THE TOP"

We are grateful to Shama and her group of the Poona Balkan-ji-Bari for their kind contribution, and hope that this will be the first of their many such activities which these children will continue to carry on for any deserving cause that may be in their power to help.

"Poona Balkan-ji-Bari will be a year old on 26th May," writes Mrs. Mohindar Sant Singh who first got the inspiration to start a Branch there; "What a wonderful year it has been, and what a lot it has meant to us to belong to the Bari Brotherhood! We all are looking forward to another year of profitable experience and rich fellowship of friends that belong to the Bari."

* * *

Shri Ramesh Sheth, In-Charge, Balkan-ji-Bari Kasturba National Memorial Fund writes: "It has been decided to send printed receipts issued by the Central Committee of the Fund to all the Local Branches of the Bombay Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari. In order to facilitate my sending these, the Presidents or Secretaries of the different Local Branches are requested to let me know, by 29th May at the latest, the approximate amount which they would be able to collect at their places, so that the receipts may be forwarded to them accordingly." The information may be sent to him at the headquarters address: C/o "Gulistan", Khar—Bombay 21.

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The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

Juhu!

Gandhiji could have chosen no odder place than this for his recuperation.

The sandy stretch of palm-fringed beach has been the favourite haunt of Bombay's holiday-makers. Until recently Juhu was synonymous with picnic parties, moon light romances, masses of pink flesh being baked and browned in the sun, empty beer bottles rolling on the sands.

Nearby is the aerodrome and the long wall of palms stretching along the coast has been cut for about a hundred yards to allow planes to take off. The roar of flying machines provides a new refrain to the symphony of surf beating on the shore.

To the colour scheme of blue sky, blue sea and silvery sands recently has been added the khaki motif and batches of Tommies and Doughboys may be seen strolling along the beach.

Juhu "is" a mixture of contrasts. There is the Theosophical Colony for the lofty souls who want to lose themselves in the contemplation of the infinite. There are also the cottages, huts and shacks of the millionaires when they want to escape the rigours of Share Bazar operations. There are restaurants where you may sip a cold drink under a striped umbrella and imagine yourself on the Riviera, and also there are the "naryalpani wallahs" from whom you can buy a coconut and quench your thirst at nature's own soda fountain.

The Mahatma has added himself to these Juhu contrasts and brought a few more contrasts in his wake! The crowd that daily makes the pilgrimage to Juhu is as varied as the population of this country.

*

To Gandhi-Gram at Juhu, during the last ten days, have come millionaire and beggar, plutocrat and proletarian, poet and politician, merchant and musician, newspaper man and newspaper woman. Indian, Englishman, American and Chinese have mingled in the crowd that gathers every evening to join the Mahatma at his prayers. They have rolled up in their limousines, come in crowded suburban trains, trudged along the dusty road. They have laid in ambush like guerillas, they have led surprise "attacks", made encircling movements, followed almost every strategy of war— just to get as near the beloved old man as possible. They have been told off, turned out, rebuked, implored to keep away. Still they have come! For, they are the people. And they feel they have a proprietory right over the man who is the symbol of their national honour and national aspirations.

*

Proudest of all who have been able to see Gandhiji, however, is Chang Sun, young Chinese journalist now in the city. A member of the staff of "Ta-Kung-Pao' (which literally means 'Impartial Newspaper"), the leading Chinese daily published simultaneously in Chungking and Kweilin, Chang Sun is on his way to the United States to start a New York edition of his paper. Last week he just missed a boat leaving for America and insists that he was lucky to have missed it because it gave him an opportunity to see Gandhiji. He spent nearly four hours in Gandhi-Gram one evening, talking to Mrs. Naidu and Mrs. Pandit, and was privileged to be near Gandhiji during the prayer. When he returned he was grinning from ear to ear, excitedly happy because of all the journalists—Indian or foreign—he had been nearest to the Mahatma.

Of Mrs. Naidu, Chang Sun said: "She has great knowledge. She knows so much about China. But she is like a man. One can talk to her so easily."

He was interested in meeting Mrs. Pandit "because she is Mr. Nehru's sister and a personal friend of Madame Chiang". Asked for his impressions of Gandhiji whom he saw but did not speak to, young Chang Sun smiled ecstatically and, finding his English too inadequate just said, 'Mister Gandhi —he looks so kind. He is a great man, a very great man."

*

To D.R.D. Wadia (known to his friends as "Dady") Gandhiji's release has brought the opportunity of a life-time. In his life, handsome, man about-town D.R.D. has dabbled (and still dabbles) in many things. He sells cars and radios, is an amateur but very competent photographer, ran his own private radio transmitter. Two years ago he turned a film producer and his very first film "Ishara" was a fair enough hit.

But nothing has ever given D.R.D. such a thrill as when, on the day of Gandhiji's release, he received an assignment from "Life" to take exclusive pictures of the Mahatma and airmail them to New York. He motored all the way to Poona and was the only photographer allowed to take pictures inside Parnakuti. Again in Juhu he took a series of special pictures (three of which are reproduced on this page). Fifteen pictures of the Mahatma, in two instalments, have thus been flown to America and the first batch is expected by now to be in the process department of "Life."

D.R.D. tells me he will be very happy to supply these pictures to Indian papers on payment. For he has offered every dollar and rupee that he makes from them for Gandhiji's Harijan fund.

*

Indian Challenges Amery

Leopold Stennet Amery could not be getting good sleep these days. The ghosts of the victims of Bengal starvation must be haunting his dreams. The echoes of Indis'a revolutionary slogans of freedom ring challengingly in his ears. The constant heckling on the Indian issue that he faces daily in the Commons is probably continued far into the stillness of the night. The Fascist phrases of his son, John Amery, who broadcasts from Berlin, must be reminding the father of the days when he was a declared pro-Fascist. And now the very ground on which he stands like a heartless collossus, is threatened to be cut from under his feet. He faces the possibilty of defeat at the next general election!

The rival candidate who will challenge Amery is Rajni Palme Dutt, the Indian leader of the British Communist Party. But it will be more as an Indian than as a Communist that Palme Dutt will fight the Secretary of State for India whose regime has been marked by the worst repression, famine and economic harm in the whole bitter history of Indo-British relations. It will not be an election. It will be a trial. Amery will be on trial and the imperialist policy which he has followed in India will be on trial. More than that the British electorate will be on trial. The next election for Parliament in Sparbrook constituency of Birmingham will be the final test whether the common man in Britain is still an imperialist at heart Guilty or not guilty?

*

Two Men

A more contrasting pair than Dutt and Amery could not be found to fight a parliamentary election. Dutt is an Indian born and brought up in England. Amery is an Englishman was born and spent his childhood in India—at Gorakhpur (U.P.), to be exact. Dutt, an Indian, grew up to blaze a revolutionary trail in England. Amery grew up to be the imperialist Secretary of State for India, causing by his arrogantly blind and callously cynical policy, untold misery in the land of his birth?

Not merely two men, but two countries, two worlds, two ways of thinking, will contest the Sparbrook election—unless, of course, Amery chooses to run away and finds a safer constituency.

*

Amery's Record

Leopold Stennet Amery's whole career is consistent with the policy he has pursued as the Secretary of State for India. Born at Gorakhpur in India in 1873, son of an officer of the Indian Forest Department, young Amery was sent back to England for his studies at Harrow and Oxford. It was India, of course, that paid for his upbringing and education, by paying a high salary and, later, pension to his father. After a brief period of journalism on the staff of "Times", he entered politics as a protege of Joseph Chamberlain from whom he received his first lessons in imperialism. Entering the House of Commons in 1910, Amery was soon promoted to Ministerial rank in 1916. In 1919 he was appointed Under-Secretary of State for Colonies which office (except for some years at the Admiralty) he held for a long time, exchanging it now and then for the Dominions. It was always one or the other department of Empire that he served and he brought to the India Office this one tradition and training in imperialist rule.

AMERY

PALME DUTT

Son of India fights Amery!

Meanwhile, during the Labour Party rule, Amery found himself without a portfolio. For a Conservative politician, however, the capitalist world opens all its doors and he was appointed Director of a number of concerns, e.g., Southern Railway, Good Year Tyre And Rubber Company, Trust and Loan Company, South-Western Africa Company and several mining combines. His long and fruitful association with British capitalism is a phase of his life which should not be forgotten.

It is also significant to recall that in 1931 when Japan attacked Manchuria, Amery came out with a statement supporting Japan's imperialist ambitions. Later during Italian invasion of Abyssinia, he openly opposed sanctions, ridiculed Abyssinia, declared that "such land would have been much better off under the control of a civilised nation than under the cruel and incompetent Abyssinians." It is this man under whom India is supposed to wage an anti-Fascist war!

*

Dutt On India

Rajni Palme Dutt who is the son of an Indian father and a Swedish mother was born and brought up in England. He was educated (like Mr. Amery) at Oxford. As one of the founders and leaders of the British Communist Party (and one of their leading theoreticians) he has been prevented from coming to India but he has kept himself in touch with developments in his

(Continued on Page 6)

GANDHIJI AT JUHU—(From left to right) Gandhiji, with son Mahadev in attendance, looking out to the sea; walking into ankle-deep water; At evening prayer.

(Copyright photos by D. R. D. WADIA.)

STORY OF WORLD'S LONELIEST DIPLOMAT

First Jap To Desert Axis

In a small, barely furnished room in the heart of Stockholm, I talked with the world's loneliest—and probably the most frightened—Japanese diplomat, writes the "Daily Mail" Stockholm correspondent.

Kimono hung limply over a chair, three red tulips in a vase providing the only splash of brazen colour in the room; for the rest a few pieces of cheap furniture lay scattered around us. This was the sanctuary of Professor S. Sakimura, Trade Expert and until 1943 a member of the Japanese Embassy Staff in Berlin.

Sakimura is the first Japanese of standing to desert the Axis cause in favour of the Allies since the days of Pearl Harbour. To-day he is a fugitive from the long arm of the Black Dragon Society in Japan and its no less interested German counterpart, the Gestapo. Ever so often, he casts an apprehensive eye alternately at the windows on the other side of Stockholm's Regent Street or at the sliding doors leading from his room into the Medical Institute where he is hiding. A six-foot blonde woman answers all calls for him at the front door or by telephone. He carefully vets each one before answering it himself.

Important Information

Yet Sakimura is not lacking in courage—moral and physical. He has risen above national arrogance sufficiently to admit openly that the Axis cannot win this war and he has followed his belief to its logical conclusion and offered to put his special knowledge at the disposal of the Allies.

On the face of it he seems genuine. Sakimura joined the Berlin Embassy Staff in 1941 as a leading expert on the Japanese Industrial Commission. His task was to work out how the German-Japanese trade could be made complementary after the war.

His duties gave him a close insight into the exact state of the German wartime industry with all its strengh and weaknesses. It is this important information that his pursuers are determined by hook or by crook to prevent him from divulging.

Sakimura was once a lecturer at Tokyo University and is an expert on political economy. He has lived in America and speaks English almost as well as German. Beneath his wild mop of black hair, there is a remarkable amount of accumulated knowledge. Once he had made a fateful decision to turn his back on the Axis, he set about escaping from Berlin.

Hair's Breadth Escape

He managed to bluff his way out with a diplomatic visa a hair's breadth ahead of the Gestapo. He arrived in Sweden at the end of 1943. The Japanese Legation put all kinds of pressure on him to return to his post in Germany.

His pay was stopped and threats of violence were made. A return air ticket to Berlin was thrust into his hands. But a day or two before he was due to leave he contrived to have a skiing accident. This had the double advantage of keeping him in bed in a nearby hospital under the constant supervision of the hospital staff. Here he could not be "got at."

This year he broke openly with the Japanese Legation and with all his countrymen here. But he was—and still is—haunted by them day and night. When he dares to leave his room, he is followed always by Japs or Germans. Attempts were made to "tap" his telephone calls. Baits were laid to lure him to dangerous meetings.

Special eyes were kept on his food in his institute home, lest it should be tampered with. According to his Swedish friends in the world of learning, he is leading the life of a hunted animal. Sakimura was able to live, thanks only to the generosity of the Swedish Academic Institute which has raised a fund for intellectual refugees.

Professor Torsten Gordlund of Stockholm University vouched for his credentials so that Sakimura receives a stipend of 75 Kronor—approximately £4/4—weekly.

Planning A Book

He is planning a book comparing the Japanese with German feudalism to the detriment of both. Samurai he likens to the Junkers, Mitsu and Mitsubishi concerns to Thyssens and Krupps, and Nazism to the creed laid down in the notorious will of Tanaka.

He agrees that the Japanese militarists may well be called the "Prussians of the Orient". Sakimura professes to be all-out to help and destroy the spirit of unbridled militarism in the world.

He is not fooled by doctrines of "chosen race" instilled into the masses by leaders of Berlin and Tokyo alike, and apparently has no illusions about the warriors of the heaven of Shintoism or the rewards of the Godhead for those who commit honourable harakiri.

"In our Embassy in Berlin our Ambassador, General Oshima, was a complete autocrat. He is in love with Hitler. Consequently no member of the Embassy Staff may express in word or writing any criticism of the Fuehrer, the Nazi regime or the wehrmacht. Criticism of that kind is regarded as an insult to the Ambassador. I regard such regimenting as an insult to intelligence and contrary to true Japanese interests.

"One must know one's ally's weaknesses as well as his strength. Oshima's autocratic style which was followed throughout the Embassy Staff was one of my main reasons for leaving. As an industrial expert, I was not permitted to report in detail why I considered after three years of hard study that German industry could not defeat the Western Powers. Verbal expressions of that opinion landed men in disgrace and in the end even in danger.

"Somebody had to take a stand eventually and I saw no reason why it should not be me."

Rejoice And Pray

The palace-prison's gates that till now kept
The Nation's darling, hid from anxious eyes,
Are just unbarred, and he thereout hath stepped
To breathe pure freedom's air 'neath sunlit skies.
His thoughts still linger on the sacred ground
Where two companion-souls, on wings of fire
Ascending, left him lone and sorrow-crowned,
But faith and prayer his broken heart inspire!
Despite the war-clouds and the gloom o'erspread
By fire and famine in this fated land,
The Nation's joy hath burst in rain o'erhead,
And heart is linked to heart and hand to hand.
"God, may his frame its health and strength regain",
Be this the Nation's prayer, its one refrain!

S. R. D.

'Deceased' Is Dead!

PRACTICAL HINTS TO REPORTERS AND SUB-EDITORS

Proof of the stiffening up in the handling of copy, which is taking place in many offices, is a letter distributed to the staff of the London "Star" (evening paper) from the editor, A. L. Cranfield. In chatty vein, he asks his staff to follow the points made in writing and sub-editing. For the guidance of others, the points made are repeated here. They are all practical and useful.

Don't, if it can be avoided, say "this morning" in an evening paper. Say "early to-day" or "at....a.m. to-day," or unless the early hour has some importance, just "to-day." Events after midday can usually be "this afternoon" or "late this afternoon" or even to-night."

Don't say "in charge of" when you mean "in the charge of." "The child was in charge of a nurse" always sounds absurd to me.

Never call a woman in court proceedings, or on any other occasion, by her surname only. Call her Mary Brown or Mrs. Brown, where you can; or you can generally get over it by "she" or "the woman."

'DECEASED' IS DEAD

Don't use "the defendant," "the accused," the plaintiff", "the prosecutor", "the prisoner", "the respondent", when you can possibly avoid doing so. As a rule the name should always be used whether it is a firm or a person. Sometimes obviously in an introduction you may have to say "the plaintiff was...." Of course, the word "deceased" has long since disappeared.

Try not to say "will" when you mean "shall." As a rule "will" is only used when it indicates volition. It is a complicated matter, but this classic example of the wrong use is a rough guide: 'I will be drowned, and no one shall save me." It's worth a little study. But don't consult..a Scotsman..on this subject he's a law unto himself.

In an evening paper past tenses should be used in news stories whenever possible. You would not say "The police are searching to-day," but "The police were searching to day."

Do not manufacture initial abbreviations for headlines. I have seen BR for British Restaurant, and even P of W for prisoner-of-war. Initials should be confined to the few universally accepted.

BE NATURAL

Please try to avoid the everlasting use of words that have become habits in headlines and are rarely used in ordinary speech, such as "MP lashes racketeers", "Ace Showman," "Crack footballer", "Lone raider." If you heard a plane overhead you would not say to your wife: "Mary, I think I hear a lone raider.' You would say: "It is a single raider." or "There's only one of the so-and-sos." Aren't you a bit tired, too, of "high ranking" officer?

I think it is time we buried the phrass "Sunday dinner" or "Sunday joint", and please avoid referring to "School dinners", which should be just "School meals."

Don't call schoolboys scholars. Call them pupils, or schoolboys, or just boys.

Don't put quotes around more words or phrases than absolutely necessary. Often they are used needlessly with expressions universally understood—for example, Rowing "Blue."

Don't use a comma as substitute for and.

Try not to mix your tenses, particularly in third-person reporting of speeches. I have just seen in the paper.."Capt. Lucas' daughter. Don't when a word ends in s, write its possessive with an apostrophe only. Add the additional s, even though the next word begins with s, as in St. Jame's Square.

NO CLASS DISTINCTION

Please avoid phrases like "working class," "upper class," or "middle class." There is generally some way of getting round it. Sometimes a phrase like "well-to-do" will serve or "working class quarter" might become "small houses". Incidentally, I think we are all getting tired of everything that is not a plain van or a tenement being called "luxury car" or "luxury flat". I think the word "glamour" is similarly overworked. At one time a favourite word was "wonder—"

As a special request will you please not refer to the last war as the Great War. Call it "the last war" or "the 1914-18 war."

A lot of stilted phrases still get written and passed. I continually read of "summoning assistance" instead of "calling help", and runaway horses are still "brought to a standstill" instead of being "stopped".

SIMPLICITY COUNTS

I hate "commencing" and "residing", and so on. Use the simple word when you can. Slovenly grammar creeps in easily in the rush for the edition. This is an example of an old enemy of mine: "The Government is trying but they will not succeed."

Pay special attention to ending quotes, and to inserting single quotes inside double quotes. I realise the difficulty when you are sending up statements in sections, without knowing whether they are completed or not, but if we all try to watch it we shall reduce the trouble.

Although "wed" is a tempting short word to use in a headline as the past tense or past participle of the verb "to wed", there should be an effort to ban it. Say "married."

Say a man is 82. Don't add "years old" or "years of age." Generally speaking use of Christian name without surname in stories and headlines is to be avoided.

Please don't say that loss or injury is "sustained". Make it "suffered", or, in the case of injury, "received," if you prefer it. Don't refer to "hot coffee." Say coffee. Also I find "8 p.m. in the evening" very tiresome.

Have you noticed how often people are "enjoying a refreshing cup of tea?" I have just observed that a soldier was "enjoying a game of cards." (Sometimes it's "indulging in.)" Say just "drinking tea" or "playing cards."

COMBINED OPERATIONS.

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ENGLAND'S NATIONAL GALLERY

By JOHN STEEGMAN

The National Gallery has a three-fold claim to special attention.

First of all, it provides a more compact yet representative 'cour d'oeil' of European painting than any other gallery in Europe, secondly, it has a fuller representation of Italian painting of all schools than anywhere outside Italy: and thirdly, only there can one see examples of the best of the British schools together under one roof.

The general level of the National Gallery collection is extraordinarily high, for the pictures on exhibit are there as a result of continuous and intensive critical review, so that no picture is exhibited unless it is a really good example of its school.

The history of the National Gallery grows out of the history of collecting and connoisseurship among the English. Young Englishmen were sent abroad on the Grand Tour to Paris, the Hague, Brussels, one or two princely German courts, Venice, Florence and Rome. They bought what took their fancy, though they often made terrible mistakes; very few bought well always, but very few failed to buy something good. The result was that by the beginning of the 19th century English private houses contained an immense number of really important pictures. This was not only true of the great country-palaces, like Welbeck, Chatsworth, Blenheim, Badminton, Goodwood or Longford, but of scores of lesser houses.

Born Out Of Private Collection

Yet there was no collection belonging to the nation, nowhere for the ordinary citizen to see pictures and thus form some idea of the arts. However, in the year 1824 the National Gallery was born, out of a private collection.

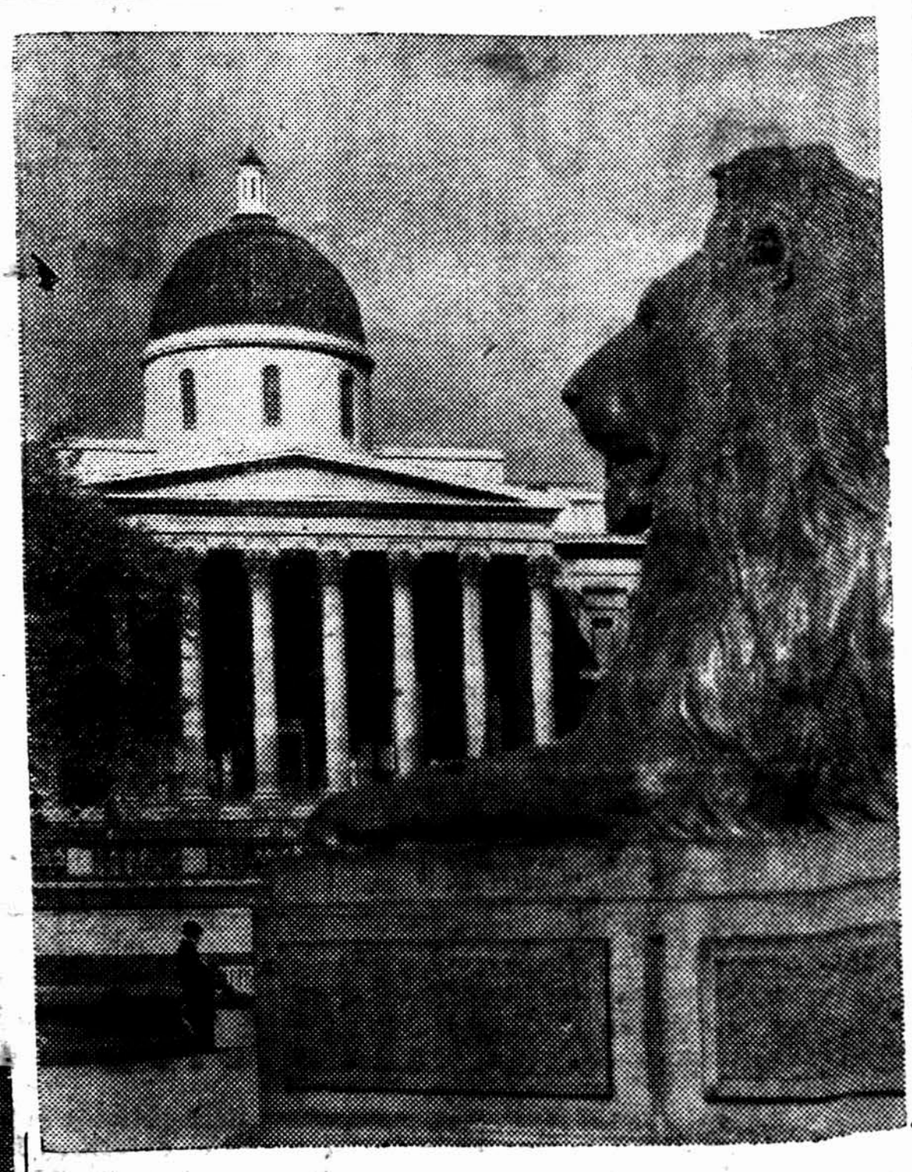
The Prime Minister, Lord Liverpool Sir Robert Peel, a future Prime Minister; and Sir George Beaumont, Lord Dover and the Rev. William Holwell-Carr, great collectors and patrons of the Arts, are the five men whom the National Gallery acknowledges as its founders. Peel, Beaumont, Dover and Holwell-Carr urged the creation of a National Collection, and the Prime Minister carried it out by the expenditure of £57,000 on 38 pictures from a private collection which had just come into the market. Twelve of those 38 are now worth more than the sum paid for the whole collection, so the Gallery began well!

It did not, however, begin very well in the matter of its premises. At first it was lodged uncomfortably in a big private houses in Pall Mall, where the famous Reform Club has stood since 1840, and not till 1838 was it housed in a building specially erected for it—the famous, long low classic building with the portico and little cupola on the north side of Trafalgar Square. Even then, the rapidly-growing collection was not very comfortable because it had to share its premises with the Royal Academy. While the Gallery represented the art of the past, the Academy represented the art of the present, and the two were not good neighbours. The unhappy partnership was dissolved only in 1870, when the Academy at last moved to its present home in Piccadilly and the National Gallery had Trafalgar Square to itself.

Its Constitution

For the first year or two the Gallery was in an undecided state about its exact form of organisation. It soon settled down, however, to a constitution which has remained more or less unchanged. There is a Governing Body, consisting of connoisseurs and men prominent in the art world, who are appointed by the Prime Minister. The responsible Head of the Gallery is the Director, and it is he who is chiefly responsible for the acquisition of pictures, his is the credit if a good opportunity is taken, and his the blame if it is missed. Of the successive Directors of the Gallery since 1824, some have been much more successful than others the goodness or badness of a Director is judged not by his connoisseurship alone, but by his courage in grasping opportunities, his power to attract gifts of pictures or money from private individuals, and the breadth of his vision.

Private benefactors have played a part of incalculable importance in raising the National Gallery to its present high standard. The great tradition of collecting in England resulted in very many first-class pictures coming to the Gallery as gifts or bequests. Another large number of masterpieces were bought on the Continent in the middle of the last century, when the brilliant Director, Sir Charles Eastlake, had the field more or less to himself and before the serious competition of the Kaiser-Freidrich Museum in Berlin or of American private collectors had begun to increase the prices of all pictures (good as well as bad).



A front view of the National Gallery which faces Trafalgar Square. This fine building was completed in 1838, and was designed by the English architect, William Wilkins. In the foreground is one of the four Landseer lions, which stand as guardians to Nelson's Column.

Although not typical of Velasquez, this painting of "Venus and Cupid" is unique. Formerly in the private picture gallery at Rokeby Hall in Yorkshire, it was presented to the National Gallery in 1906.

Weak Spots And Splendours

Like all great art galleries, the National Gallery has its weak spots and its splendours. It has fewer world-famous pictures, apart from the English Gainsboroughs and Reynold's, than say, the Prado, the Louvre or the Unizi. It has however Titian's "Bacchus and Ariadne"; Michelangelo's "Entombment" Botticelli's "Nativity: Velasquez's unique "Venus"; Bellini's "Doge Loredano;" Holbein's "Christine of Denmark;" Hobbema's "Avenue"; Ruben's finest landscape, the "Chateau de Steen": Tintoretto's St. George and the Dragon"; Van Dyck's "John Arnolfini"; the little "Knight in Armour" by Giorgione, the rarest of all Masters; Uccello's "Battle of San Romano" and Piero della Francesco's "Baptism". It has also an unsurpassable collection of the Venetian Schools in general and of Crivelli in particular, a very strong series of Rembrandts and a high level of the 17th century Dutch painters.

But the National Gallery's proud boast is that, apart from these individual masterpieces, it provides a more nearly complete epitome of European painting than any other single gallery has yet provided. And that is still the wise policy that is being pursued now, war or no war.

Among the priceless masterpieces now owned by the British nation and exhibited—in peace-time—at the National Gallery is this painting "The Battle of San Romano, 1432" by Paolo Uccello. This formerly formed part of a series painted for the Medici Palace in Florrence. Other paintings in this series are now in the Louvre and the Uffiji galleries.

Germany's Propaganda Front

By WILLIAM L. SHIRER

The nightmare of having to fight a war on two fronts that has haunted the German field marshals and the German people since the Franco-Russian alliance of 1893 has returned, along with the great bombings, to plague their uneasy slumbering, Goebbels, waking up at last to his task, warns his fellow countrymen that it will come within a month or two. And he sets about to steel his people for the shock of invasion and a real two-front war.

It was high time, and the job will be difficult even for the resourceful Nazi Propaganda Minister. Few people who have not lived among the Germans can really grasp how deep in their bones lies the fear of the two-front war. We know that the problem tortured the minds of the German general staff even before 1893, for Moltke and Schlieffen concluded as early as 1879 that a Russian-French coalition against Germany was a possibility to be reckoned with.

From then until 1914 the general staff wrestled almost exclusively with this problem. Not given then, or ever, to wishful thinking, it realized that the German Army always would be outnumbered in a war with the West and the East. That is why it decided that the only possible strategy was to strike with most of its power on one front while holding with as few troops as possible on the other until the first enemy had been destroyed.

Moltke, it is interesting to recall, favoured concentrating on Russia while remaining on the defensive with France. Schlieffen, who soon followed him as chief of the general staff, reversed this policy. In 1894 he decided that France must be put out of action first and Russia crushed afterward.

But there were always doubts among the military and the statesmen in Berlin whether, even granted the Teutonic military genius, Germany ever could be strong enough to repel attack from two sides. Bismarck had these doubts. He favoured keeping out of war with Russia.

Hitler had doubts, too, and set them down in "Mein Kampf." His solution, plainly set forth in his book, was to make Britain his ally instead of his enemy, then destroy France and finally set upon Russia. But above all else he was obsessed with the idea that the mistake of 1914 never should be repeated and that Germany never must fight a war on two fronts simultaneously. That was why in August 1939, with the hearty approval of the general staff, he made his pact with Moscow. That was why he attacked his enemies one at a time! Poland, France and Russia. His failure came because he under estimated Britain's powers of recovery, the military potentiality of the United States and the strength of the Red Army. But the fact that he skilfully avoided fighting a two-front war was one of the things that made every German so confident in the early part of the conflict.

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